President’s Report

presented at Annual General Meeting

Wodonga Friday 12th October 2018

It gives me pleasure to present the President’s Report for the NSQA operational programme for 2018.

This year has seen some changes in operating processes with NSQA.

Firstly with the retirement of Executive Officer David Pollock and his passing away in Feb 2018.

I again acknowledge the twenty five years’ service David gave to NSQA since the initial discussions at Warwick. Acquiring Federal seed funding, subsequently as a founding director and seventeen years as Executive Officer.

His contribution to NSQA is missed, but his accumulated records are a good legacy to his contributions.

Mark McDonald was appointed Executive Officer in Feb 2018. His approach has been to complete the move to electronic communication and enhance the website. This has not been straight forward as some saleyards have still not supplied email contacts for operational and notice personnel.

NSQA saleyards accredited have demonstrated a more robust compliance to Animal Welfare Land Transport Standards minimising unfit stock receivals, however, non accredited and non-member yards continue to feature in targeted visits by Animal Activists. These reports are circulated far and wide and add to unwanted publicity to the saleyard industry.

NSQA accreditation holds a saleyard on a higher platform for Animal Welfare, Biosecurity and livestock lifetime traceability.

During Mark’s short tenure he has initiated a member survey, instigated a workshop to consider NSQA’s future with a facilitator. These results will be considered by the new board and implemented by the incoming committee where financially practical.

I thank Mark for taking on the challenge of EO of NSQA and progressing the electronic pathway for future administration.

The audit process with the pre-audit internal audit is making the site visit more functional.

I thank Aus-Meat for providing the external audit contract service, in particular Bruce Gormley, General Manager Industry Standards and Wayne Williamson, Project Manager and the administration staff.

During the year I have had the opportunity to present at the ALSA conference and consult with members and potential members, also making visits to Southern Australian Saleyards and my regular involvement on the NRLE Board.

I appreciate the work done by the current committee for the year and the foresight for the future.

As it is the end of a committee term a new committee is incoming. Grant Johnson was not successful in re-election, however I thank Grant for his untiring logical contribution over his 3 terms and wish him well in his community service.

I welcome incoming member Paul White.

In concluding I commend NSQA accreditation to all saleyards to be recognised by industry and the broader community as providing an externally audited selling centre for livestock with full traceability and Animal Welfare Compliance

Ian O’Loan OAM

President.