



Western Sheep & Beef Producers

WA LIVESTOCK EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION AGM

PGA President Rob Gillam and Ian Randles, Executive Officer – Pastoral & Livestock attended the recent AGM.

Mr Bryn Martin CEO of James Point P/L spoke on the lengthy difficulties experienced by the company in gaining approval to commence construction of the new port. He told the meeting that without the ability to load containerised or bulk cargo, general cargo loading such as livestock will not be viable.

The Government's response so far has been silence.

The Chairman of WALEA commented that the lack of government approval has forced livestock export to continue using ageing infrastructure through a Fremantle port that is not investing in new equipment.

Furthermore, the local Federal member of Parliament is unsympathetic to livestock export.

AWI

The Chairman was scheduled to attend an essential briefing meeting at AWI at Sydney on 4th November. This meeting was to report on changes AWI have made to their business model in response to the recent independent performance review and the Productivity Commission's Rural RDC Inquiry.

Also, there was to be feed back on meetings held with retailers in the US – NRF, and the UK over the mulesing issue and marketing and R&D associated with the mulesing issue.

Unfortunately, due to vehicle trouble, the Chairman missed the airline flight. However, he was still able to effectively represent members via a telephone hook-up.

NLIS

Members may have seen press releases about a motion sponsored by the National Association Saleyard Servicing Organisations.

This motion recommended to both national and state sheep and goat NLIS advisory committees that RFID tagging be introduced on a mandatory, no exceptions basis.

From research, it seems most likely this motion was the reaction to a compliance tagging issue in Victoria. The chairman, Digby Stretch wrote a well worded reply to this motion which was sent to both national and state committees.

Mr Stretch pointed out that moving to a much more expensive tag would never resolve problems of compliance but only lead to increased producer costs. Furthermore, a move to RFID tags would only result in the scrapping of the successful Mandatory Mob Based Movement reporting in W A.

MEETINGS

Executive: Thursday 9th December.

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**Wellard Rural Exports
would like to wish all PGA members and their families
Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!**

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