

Queensland Rural Regional and Remote Women's Network Inc.

(RRR Women)

Minutes

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Saturday 11 October 2025

12:00pm

1. Opening of Meeting and Recording of Those Present and Apologies

The President, **Emma Clarke**, declared the meeting open at 12:02pm.

Attendees:

As per attendance register and member notifications.

Apologies:

As received and recorded.

A quorum was confirmed in accordance with the Constitution by the Secretary.

2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

Board Member **Jessica Heck** delivered the Acknowledgement of Country and paid respects to Elders past and present, extending that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples present in the meeting.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Members were invited to declare any real, potential or perceived conflicts of interest in relation to AGM agenda items.

No conflicts were declared.

4. Confirmation of Minutes – 2024 AGM

The Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting were circulated to financial members prior to the meeting.

Motion: That the Minutes of the 2024 AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record.
Moved: Michelle McVeigh

Seconded: Melissa Brooke
Carried.

5. President's Report

The President, **Emma Clarke**, presented the FY25 Annual Report, previously distributed to financial members.

Key activities included delivery of the 17th RRR Women Conference in Rockhampton, the Brisbane Long Lunch, the inaugural Future Queensland Leadership Program. The publication of the first Rural, Regional and Remote Women Report expanded government advocacy including formal submissions to represent the voices of RRR Women in Queensland.

The organisation strengthened its financial position, membership engagement and strategic partnerships across the year.

The report outlined a year of renewal, strategic repositioning and expanded impact in RRR Women's 32nd year.

Key Activities and Outcomes for 2025

Conference Delivery

- Approximately 150 delegates attended, with 29 sessions and nearly 40 speakers.
- Strong media engagement across ABC, WIN, Channel 7, print and digital platforms.
- 16 new members joined in June through conference engagement.
- 2027 Conference confirmed for Toowoomba.

Signature Event – Brisbane Long Lunch

- Over 150 attendees at the August 2025 event.
- Continued as a flagship connection and advocacy platform.

Future Queensland: Rural Women's Leadership Program

- Inaugural 10-week leadership program delivered in partnership with Environmental Leadership Australia.
- 30 rural, regional and remote women selected.
- Program focused on leadership capability, renewable energy transition, advocacy and community resilience.

Rural, Regional and Remote Women Report – 2025

- First independent statewide benchmarking study of rural, regional and remote women.
- Over 450 contributors.
- Identified priority themes including digital divide, volunteer economy, mental health, economic inequality and disaster resilience.
- Activated through media engagement and direct government briefings.
- Established as the foundation of RRR Women's ongoing advocacy strategy.

Government Engagement and Advocacy

- Formal submissions to the Queensland Volunteering Inquiry and FY26 State Budget.
- Appeared as a witness to the Inquiry into Volunteering in Queensland.
- Participated in State Budget lockup.
- 15 direct engagements with Ministers, Shadow Ministers and departments before and after the State election.
- Ministerial representation at the 2025 Conference.

Partnerships and Network Strengthening

- Strengthened peer organisation partnerships across Queensland.
- Expanded organisational memberships to amplify collective impact.
- Continued bursary delivery and statewide brand presence, including regional travel and engagement.

Financial and Membership Position

- The organisation closed FY25 in a strengthened financial and membership position, supporting long-term sustainability.

The President thanked Board members, volunteers, sponsors, partners and members for their contribution to the year's achievements.

Motion: That the President's Report be received and adopted.

Moved: Emma Clarke

Seconded: Carmen O'Keefe

Carried.

6. Treasurer's Audit Report

The Treasurer, **Michelle McVeigh**, presented the audited financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2025.

The statements included income and expenditure, balance sheet position, grant acquittals and conference outcomes. The Auditor confirmed compliance.

Members were invited to ask questions. No questions were raised.

Motion: That the audited financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2025 be received and adopted.

Moved: Michelle McVeigh

Seconded: Natasha Kocks

Carried.

7. Review of 2025 Operations, Initiatives and Partnerships

The President and **Mary Lockton** provided additional commentary on operational delivery, strategic partnerships and future pipeline initiatives.

Noted.

8. Election of 2025 / 2026 Office Bearers

The Secretary confirmed nominations were received in accordance with the Constitution and positions were taken to vote. The declared Office Bearers for 2025 / 2026 are:

- President: Emma Clarke
- Vice President: Melissa Brooke
- Secretary: Secretary
- Treasurer: Michelle McVeigh
- Board Members: Natasha Kocks, Jessica Miller, Casey Alsop, Rebecca McLennan, Mary Lockton.

9. Membership Fees

The President addressed membership fee settings for 2025 / 2026.

Motion: That membership fees remain unchanged at \$60.

Moved: Jessica Miller

Seconded: Carmen O'Keefe

Carried.

10. 2026 – The Year Ahead

Vice President **Melissa Brooke** outlined priorities for 2026, including:

- Publication of the second RRR Women Report
- Continued government advocacy

- Expansion of leadership programming
- Strengthened fundraising and sponsorship strategy
- 2027 Conference planning (Toowoomba)

Noted.

11. General Business

The RRR Women Board farewelled outgoing Board Member Petrea George.

12. Closure

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 12:55pm

Signed as a true and correct record:

Carmen O'Keefe
Secretary

Date: 12 October 2025.