

ASIEQ General Members Meeting Minutes

Date:	Wednesday 16 November 2022
Time:	9am – 9.48am
Location:	Minter Ellison, Level 22, Waterfront Place, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane Via Zoom
Attendees:	Appendix 1
Apologies:	Louisa Hackenberg (QR), Patina Pitkin (Wilmar), Sharon Seymour (Sundale)

Acknowledgement to Country

Cara Williams began by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which we individually came from today. Cara asked everyone to take a minute to think about the traditional owners of the land on which they stand.

Welcome

Cara welcomed everyone for coming today given there were significant traffic issues.

Review of the previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous General Meeting on 17 August 2022 were circulated after that meeting.

Kelly Tucker moved a motion to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true and correct record. Seconded by Trent Rickard. None Opposed. Motion Passed.

The minutes from the previous General Meeting on 17 August 2022 were circulated after that meeting.

Codagh McCowen moved a motion to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true and correct record. Seconded by Trent Rickard. None Opposed. Motion Passed.

Correspondence

Correspondence Log					
Date	Incoming	Outgoing	Method	Sender	Subject
26/10/2022	✓		Email	ARPA	Invitation to the ARPA Excellence Awards, Brisbane Friday 18 November
16/08/2022	✓		Email	Michael Spencer, OIR	Offer to review RRTW plans
5/08/2022		✓	Email	Danielle Bolton	Email to Janene Hillhouse asking when the RRTW Guidelines will come into effect.

If members wished to read any of this correspondence in full, they can contact the Secretariat for a copy. The correspondence was noted.

Treasurers Report

Trent Rickard gave the Treasurer's report.

- Bank Balance as of 31 October 2022 - \$246 169
- Outgoings for October were \$4 914 and incomings (membership) was \$29 930
- BAS for Sept quarter has been lodged
- Annual return will be submitted in the next day or two
- Audit for 2022 completed
- 90% of membership funds have been received

Clodagh McCowen moved a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Cara Williams. None Opposed. Motion Passed.

Presidents Update

Clodagh thanked everyone for joining us at MinterEllison Lawyers and online. She thanked Trent Forno and the team from MinterEllison for again providing a venue and catering for us to meet. After the meeting today, there will be a presentation by Jennifer Veiga, Special Counsel from Minter Ellison to discuss the Insurance risks at Christmas parties as well as a presentation from Suzi D'Andrea.

We have over 20 members including associate members attending today's forum. The hybrid model of conducting meetings has become a permanent feature for ASIEQ. Over the past 3 years our members have had to adapt and flex to the changes covid-19 has brought to our lives. Clodagh noted that working from home gives an opportunity to balance home and work life whilst still being highly productive. However, everyone has suffered from the negative impact of recruitment,

onboarding and upskilling new staff in the claims management space, particularly more inexperienced workers who are new to self-insurance and/or case management.

There is no formal training program in Queensland for those new to the industry and this a key issue for ASIEQ in 2023. Although we are still wrapping up 2022, in 2023 we are planning to run some masterclasses that may help members case management teams to receive a more in depth understanding of the principles, legislation and practical application of workers compensation in Queensland. Whilst ASIEQ already have our bi-monthly drop in sessions for more experienced members to discuss complex or unique points, we hope to provide some separate sessions to a broader audience providing further learning and professional development opportunities. Whether this is a better understanding of how AMA 5 or the GEPI II guidelines interact with WPI assessments, discussions around our obligations under s220 of the Act to refer workers to vocational rehab providers, common pitfalls found in audits and licence renewals or recent case law regarding QIRC or court decisions, we hope this will assist with filling any knowledge gaps. Clodagh invited members to contribute any ideas for topics via the Secretariat and that members support these endeavours when they are development.

Self Insurers in Queensland must follow a complex audit framework tool, work with rehabilitation and return to work guidelines which are not finalised and navigate new processes and reporting obligation regarding claims farming. Next year will be another pivotal year with a finalised version of the accredited rehabilitation and Return To Work guidelines, the overdue 12 month review and consultation process regarding the Self-insurance Audit Framework and the commencement of the third 5 year review of the workers compensation scheme in Queensland. We are also expecting regulations to be tabled following a further consultation process regarding NISSQ, specifically the re-entry provisions. Clodagh encouraged members to make full use of any consultation periods to provide feedback directly to the Regulator or via ASIEQ. If we don't make the most of these opportunities, we can be left with highly administrative and burdensome processes that can be costly to insurers and also take away from providing good support and assistance to injured workers. While not all our submissions are taken onboard, she felt that ASIEQ continues to have a strong voice in this space and it's important that we continue to lobby as an association that represents all self-insurers in Queensland. ASIEQ will also continue to consult with Workcover Queensland to discuss their experience in the scheme and if we can, gain any additional learnings or ideas in this space.

Since our last forum in August 2022 a lot has been happening at ASIEQ:

In addition to written submissions and multiples dealings with the Regulator, particularly surrounding the draft Accredited Rehabilitation and Return to Work Guidelines and Claim Farming legislative changes and processes, we have also addressed the following.

PIEF conference

In early October, Cara Williams from our Executive Committee attended the PIEF conference at the Sofitel. In addition to presenting at the conference, Cara also provided ASIEQ executive with a written summary of her experience, including a comparison with the ASIEQ conference. Clodagh asked any other members that attended the PEIF conference as well as our conference in March 2022 to advise what they liked most or least about either conference. Feedback should go to our Secretariat. A conference for early 2024 has tentatively been discussed.

NIISQ

On 27 October Clodagh attended the NIISQ Agency's Stakeholder Breakfast Forum: a vision for the future.

This morning seminar was held by NIISQ to launch their bold new vision to create outcomes for people injured in motor vehicle accidents or workplace accidents, who are living with injury and disability. By 2026, the National Injury Insurance Scheme Queensland will have been in operation for a decade and will have provided important benefits and support to almost 1,000 seriously injured people.

This seminar was led by various experts, including quadruple amputee Matthew Ames who was also the closing speaker at our conference earlier this year. The seminar involved a number of breakout discussions on a range of topics which was an interesting experience to hear from those who work in the medical field, rehabilitation, legal industry and government departments.

AGM

On Friday 28 October 2022 we held our annual AGM at the Crystalbrook Vincent hotel at Howard Smith Wharves. Clodagh thanked everyone who attend and was pleased to advise that full committee was elected for 2023. We also made some slight amendments to our constitution.

Barry Nilsson

On 2 November Barry Nilsson Lawyers held an education seminar for ASIEQ Members discussing Breaking Issues: A Statutory Claims Update which was very informative. Clodagh encouraged attendance at these lunchtime forums, particularly for anyone making complex liability decisions. It is important we keep abreast of case law and statutory interpretation. It was great to some self-insurers bringing a few colleagues from their team so that they could all share in the experience and make the most of this valuable training seminar.

WCRS meeting

On 2 November the executive committee held our quarterly meeting with WCRS. The minutes will be discussed later in the meeting.

ARPA dinner

Clodagh was invited as President of ASIEQ to attend the Australian Rehabilitation Providers Association NAT & QLD 2022 Excellence in Workplace Rehabilitation Awards. This even will be held this Friday.

Drop in session

Our next drop-in session via zoom is scheduled for 2 December 2022. Members were asked to advise the Secretariat of any topics they would like to raise in this confidential environment.

Holidays and Christmas Party

As we move closer to Christmas, many will be taking a well earned break. Clodagh hoped everyone enjoys a wonderful break and looks forward to celebrating the end of year at our ASIEQ Christmas function on 15 December 2022. This is a wonderful opportunity for member and associate members to socialise, network and to celebrate 2022. The opportunity to catch up face to face have been few and far between in the last few years so she hoped everyone will make the most of this event.

ASIEQ and WCRS Meeting

Clodagh and Louise Cook went through the recent minutes of meeting from the WCRS meeting. She recommended Members send through any topics they would like us to raise. Copies of the minutes are circulated via email prior to this meeting and can also be requested from the Secretariat.

Sub Committee Reports

RIG

There was no discussion on this topic.

General Business

Masterclasses

Cara asked the members to suggest any topics they would like explored in a masterclass. Suggestions can go through to the Secretariat.

Next Meeting

The meeting schedule for 2023 is currently being developed and will be released soon.

Clodagh McCowen
President
22 February 2023

Appendix 1 – Meeting Attendees

Firstname	Surname	Company
Cara	Williams	Bolton Clarke
Selena	Malpass	Bolton Clarke
Andrew	Murrell	Brisbane City Council
Veronica	O'Neill	Brisbane City Council
Kelly	Tucker	Brisbane City Council
Clancy	Rose	Gallagher Bassett
Louise	Cook	Gold Coast City Council
Lou	Riches	Gold Coast City Council
Karen	Morris	Gold Coast City Council
Tony	Cacciola	Jardine Lloyd Thompson (JLT)
Megan	White	JBS Australia
Rachael	Lindsay	Local Government Association Queensland
Helen	Creagh	Queensland Rail Limited
Shely	Holt	Redland City Council
Sarah	Reynolds	Teys Australia Meat Group Pty Ltd
Trent	Rickard	Teys Australia Meat Group Pty Ltd
Victoria	Barham	The Star Entertainment Group
Christine	Judge	Townsville City Council
Louise	Grant	Townsville City Council
Deb	Allen	University of Queensland
Suzanne	D'Andrea	Vocational Redirection
Clodagh	McCowen	Wesfarmers Limited
Lauren	Darben	WorkRehab