



The Country Fire Service Volunteers Association

"Representing the interests of CFS Members"

Action and Agreement Record				
Date	29 th November 2022	Time: 1932	Duration: 1 hour	Location: Mt Barker Region One
Meeting	<i>Minutes of CFSVA Meeting</i>			
Attendees	Adrian Muldoon, Bailey Ferrari, Chris Lambert, Colin Chomel, Geoff Braddock, Hannah March, Ivan Hosking, Kerry White, Leila McEgan Michael Krichauff, Shirley Chomel, Anthony Baker, Rob Hall, Wally Bolt GUEST: CMDR Peter Phillips			
Teams link	N/A			
Apologies	Nathan Watts, Vicki Littler, Paul Smith, Dean Mortimer, Patricia King, Deb Parker, Jake Preston, Todd Tracey, Chris Tanner			
No	Actions and Agreements	Who	When	Completed
1	Declare the meeting open with Acknowledgement of Country Welcome to new members and Guests			
2	Safety Briefing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exits and safety identified Be mindful of cords Fire extinguisher by the door 			
3	Disclosure of Interest: Reminder to declare interest upfront. If anything comes up during the meeting as a conflict of interest, notify at time/beginning of discussion. It will be up to the committee to decide if it is a conflict or not.			
4	Attendance (Quorum for Meeting is 50% of voting members)			

	(Quorum is total voting members) Members Present: 14 remote 0 Quorum: Correspondence: circulated as per email <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil further received 			
5	Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on the 30th of August AGM 2022 Moved: S Chomel seconded: Chris Lambert Carried:			
6	Business arising from previous minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance to be nominated 			
7	<u>Agenda Items:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • V Littler Brought up by I Hosking): Chain saw operator course: waiting list has blown out (increase in cost and difficulties with trainers (discussion had re training options with groups and Brigades) • W Bolt: Communication breakdown with maintenance and replacement of vehicles for Brigades in Macclesfield. Discussion had re communication issues and Ivan has suggested taking to Sonia • I Hosking : initiated vote for W Bolt to be voted in as treasurer • I Hosking : WWC certificate with the VSB experiences discussed • I Hosking : Banks signatories are Ivan, Wally, Kerry and Bailey • P Smith: structural helmet recent email • I Hosking : CFSVA State level: Enquires have been made that have not followed up with an outcome/response. Members feeling that the CFSVA is not listened to at a regional level, members are feeling disheartened and frustrated. • B Ferrari: Emails from Brigade LT at Strath for the potential assistance that CFS may provide to SAAS i.e., CPR assistance that is being discussed at RMVC level. Email read and planned discussion for next meeting. • H March: Has been elected to the Volunteer Board of the CFSVA. (Issues of 1 paid person of CFSVA for 14,000 members is not suitable) Brings experience and a younger voice and outlook to the forum • B Ferrari/I Hosking: 10-year plan for the CFSVA please bring idea's back from your Brigade's, what is wanted i.e., appropriate resources and stations. Discussions had re how to ask volunteers what they want for the 10-year plan. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H March: to formulate a document for distribution on the 10-year plan so members can take back to Brigades 			
8	<p><u>REPORTS:</u></p> <p>President's report: I Hosking Ivan discussed/outlined how he would like to move forward with CFSVA meetings and issues brought up by members</p> <p><u>Finance: W Bolt</u> Working Account: \$6,355.66 as per 30th of October 2022</p> <p>Motion: Vote Wally Bolt as role of Treasurer for CFSVA Mt Lofty Branch Moved: S Chomel Seconded: Hannah March carried:</p> <p><u>Museum: C Chomel</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reunion dinner held • Containers now house all museum pieces <p><u>OHS: Paul Smith</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information attached <p><u>Brigade Group Issues:</u> These are items that have been raised by CFSVA reps in the Mt Lofty Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on volunteer time and morale from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ perception that the formal process for managing basic station maintenance and repairs is bureaucratic, frequently delayed with no communication regarding progress, and relies on volunteer members to repeatedly follow up and then manage suppliers when/if approval does come through. ○ reliance on volunteers to apply for grant funding to address station facility improvements and maintenance. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFSVA did an audit of station infrastructure last year, how does it plan to use the information to lobby for greater funding/ greater visibility of the investment program for station facility upgrades? • Could the VA support an initiative to improve practices around use of network status messaging ("K" buttons) and the consistent delivery of arrival messages? • Have had feedback requesting medical support closer to the fireground or having members trained in remote first aid • CFSVA has been talking about establishing a Health and Wellbeing working group since May - is there an update? Is there any appetite to focus on grassroots initiatives while we wait for the bureaucracy to catch up? • Please see Annex A <p><u>State Issues:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 			
9	<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Hosking : Card/certificate for Richard for his dedication. • I Hosking : Sonia would like to hear of any issues for the AVL. Discussion had re issues/mounting, placement, and installation in vehicles. • C Hutchinson: Happy valley opened Memorial Garden for Louise on the 26th of November 2022 • C Hutchinson: Fire bug discussion in Parliament they could be electronically monitored (ankle bracelet) though fire season • I Hosking : new constitution meetings to continue every 3 months rather than every 2 months. <p>Motion: keep CFSVA meetings at three monthly Moved: S Chomel Seconded: Michael Krickauff Carried:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P Phillips: To have meeting dates aligned with RVMC so discussion can be had on issues raised by CFSVA 			
10	<p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Hosking : Certificate for Richard for his dedication • H March: formulate page on 10-year plan for Brigade distribution • I Hosking to advise of meeting dates 			

11	Next Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be advised 			
12	Meeting Closed: 2032 HRS			

ANNEX A (Fred Keal Captain Macclesfield) As read by Wally Bolt

Communications seem to have broken down in the supply and maintenance of trucks.

The usual business of servicing the trucks seems to work as well as ever; it's the modification and supply of trucks that has suffered a down-turn.

A recent example is Macclesfield 14.

When we were offered a new 14 about 6 years ago, we had the option of a single cab with 1600 litres of water or a dual cab with 600 litres.

We felt 600 litres would be too small for rural work, so we settled on a single cab with a crew of three.

Times have moved on and all trucks are in the process of having in-cab breathing added to the halo and AVL we have all been waiting for.

We only learned of the solution when the driver came to drop off State 24 as a stand-in to take 14 for the refit.

Our group equipment officer and the Group Officer were also unaware.

I still remain amazed at the 'engineering solution' that was decided upon:

Remove the middle seat.

This reduces Macclesfield 14 to a big QRV because there isn't enough crew to operate it.

When I complained I was told the original build spec was only for two seats, which doesn't sound right to me.

I have asked to be placed on the list for a new dual cab 14 as I understand they have been redesigned and carry 1700 litres now with a crew of four.

Whilst I am pretty unimpressed by the situation the main thing that is bugging me is the lack of communication.

I am left to guess if we will ever have an effective second truck at Macclesfield because our own fleet services are not being told what will arrive next week, let alone next year.

I understand trucks just arrive and they have to hold onto them to wait for the lettering and radios to be delivered before they can go out to brigades.

I will admit it must be frustrating to have brigades moaning about changes in delivery dates for trucks when operational needs might require some juggling of resources, but the solution seems to be to tell us nothing.

That does make life easier for them, but we are constantly reminded that sit reps are vital to ensure information is fed out to the public because people want to know what's going on.

Brigades are not being consulted or even notified of game-changing decisions about the trucks they have and the trucks they hope to have.

I know we fought to have halo, AVL, and in-cab breathing, and Moores Engineering were presented with a problem to solve but the failure to involve or even inform brigades is causing problems.