

# Volunteer Fire Fighters Association

"The Voice of Volunteer Firefighters in NSW"

PO Box 123, Clarence Town NSW 2321



## MINUTES OF VFFA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017 HELD ON SATURDAY 5 AUGUST 2017 THE PARKVIEW HOTEL 281 SUMMER STREET ORANGE NSW

Meeting commenced 1010 hours.

Attendees as per the attendance list.

- Welcome by chairman** President Mr Mick Holton welcomed all present especially the invited guests and thanked everyone for attending. The future of the VFFA is in a strong position and relies on the people in attendance here today to continue the good work. The president acknowledged the work done by the executive though out the year.
- Apologies:** Tim Cathles, Al Lukes, John Peters, John McKenzie, Fergus Walker, Mike Bowmans, Peter Cannon, Rod Young, Graeme, Jim Crowther, Jeanette Holton, Oliver Maruda, Mick Marchini, John Sanders, Peter Gowen.  
Moved M. Scholz                                      Second T. Ellis                                      **Carried**
- Previous minutes of 2016 AGM:** The president read through the minutes of the 2016 AGM discussing major points throughout the minutes.  
  
Brian Williams moved that the minutes of the 2016 AGM were a true and accurate copy of the meeting. Second Michael Scholz                                      **Carried**
- Business arising:**
  - Membership Services Officer position to be pursued with funding.
  - Government grants available to organisations such as the VFFA.
  - Unauthorised membership by 3<sup>rd</sup> party to RFSA from RFS membership application.
- Special guest address:** The Hon Mr Phillip Donato Member for Orange addressed the meeting. Areas covered by Phillip Donato: -
  - Cootamundra by election
  - Inquiry into Emergency Services NSW
  - Previous inquiries from other serious bushfires
  - Future of the SFFP in NSW.

*Volunteers for community and the environment*

6. **Correspondence: IN.**

- Letter from Tooraweenah RFB ref redeployment of Cat1 tanker.
- Letter from NSW Treasurer Gladys Berejiklian MP. Ack. support for the introduction of a new Emergency Services Property Levy (ESPL).
- Beyond Blue ref National mental health and well being of Police and Emergency services personel.
- Rural Fire Brigades Association QLD – magazine.

**Out.**

- Mick Holton - Letter to NSW Treasurer Gladys Berejiklian MP & Phillip Donato MP re support of the implementation of the Emergency Services Property Levy (ESPL).
- Fair Trading NSW – Lodgement of Financial Affairs and Charitable Fundraising Application.
- Mick Holton – NSW National MP’s ref Working together in support of NSW RFS Volunteer Firefighter
- Jon Russell – Hon Robert Stokes ref Blatant, & severe Bullying, Intimidation & discrimination. Request meeting.
- Mick Holton – Beyond Blue ref letter of support.
- Mick Holton – Hon Troy Grant MP ref The proposed Amendment Bill - Rural Fires Act.

Numerous emails

Greg Godde moved that the correspondence be accepted.

Second Tony Ellis

**Carried**

7. **Financial Report:** The president presented the financial report for the 2016/2017 financial year on behalf of the treasurer detailing the income and expenditure details. All accounts have been audited for the past 12 months.

Mick Holton explained to Phillip Donato the background to the legal expenses being paid by the VFFA in support of a volunteer member.

Mick Holton moved that the financial report for the 2016/2017 financial year be accepted. Second Peter Cathles

**Carried**

8. **Payment of Honorariums:** ‘Mick Holton read out the honorariums.

President/Chairman \$1000.00

Treasurer \$500.00

Secretary \$500.00

Web manger \$1,000.00

Media Officer \$1,000.00

Moved Mick Holton

Second Don Tarlington

Carried.’

9. **Election of Office Bearers:** The President Mr Mick Holton invited Mr Phillip Donato to take the chair and conduct the election of office bearers.

President – Mick Holton nominated by Brian Williams - 2<sup>nd</sup> Kylee Williams  
 Accepted Duly elected.

Senior Vice President – Brian Williams nominated by Mick Holton - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Jeanette Holton Accepted Duly elected

Vice President – Graeme Jay nominated by Mick Holton - 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeanette Holton  
 Accepted Duly elected

Treasurer – Jeanette Holton nominated by Mick Holton - 2<sup>nd</sup> Graeme Jay  
 Accepted Duly elected

Secretary - Greg Godde nominated by Mick Holton - 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeanette Holton  
 Accepted Duly elected

Media Officer - Jon Russell nominated by Greg Godde - 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Williams  
 Accepted Duly elected

There be no objections to the nominated positions all nominated persons  
 were accepted to their role of office bearers.

Mr Phillip Donato was thanked for his assistance, Mick Holton resumed the  
 chair and thank everyone for their support as their President over the last 12  
 months.

**10. Adoption of VFFA Constitution 2017:** Greg Godde spoke on the constitution  
 and the background history of the updating of the constitution as per the  
 Associations Incorporations Act and Regulations as defined by the NSW Fair  
 Trading. The constitution has now been to 5 meetings including AGM's, Ordinary  
 meetings and executive meetings for discussion and comment. The constitution  
 has now been amended and put on the VFFA webpage for some months now for  
 members to view and comment. Any further comments were put to the meeting  
 before adoption of the constitution by the meeting.

**Mick Holton.** Mick spoke on some requested amendments to the constitution –  
 – **Part 2 .7 Membership generally**  
 – **Associates** add – (e) Supporters and sponsors of the VFFA.  
 – **12. Register of members** Remove sub para (3), (4), (5).

**Mick Holton moved** 'The constitution be submitted as per the amendments to Fair  
 Trading NSW for adoption". 2<sup>nd</sup> Don Tarlington **Carried**

**11. Govt Inquiry into bullying into NSW Emergency Services.** Mick Holton briefly  
 outlined the current progress of the enquiry and thanked all members for putting  
 their time and effort into the submissions which have been numerous.

**12. General Meeting / Executive meeting 2017.**

Future meetings will be arranged closer to the date at the best possible location  
 even asking Brigades.

13. Next AGM Sat 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Location to be advised.

14. There being no further business meeting closed at 1135 hours.

Greg Godde  
Secretary  
VFFA

Mick Holton  
Chairman / President  
VFFA

DRAFT



PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY  
& THE ENVIRONMENT  
VFFA  
PO Box 123  
Clarence Town NSW 2321

**Income & Expenditure**  
Period 01/07/15 to 30/06/16

|                       |                                |                     |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Income</b>         | Donation                       | \$ 316.15           |
|                       | Sales merchandise              | \$ 377.65           |
|                       | Magazine                       | \$ 18,000.00        |
|                       | Miscellaneous income           | \$ 329.92           |
|                       | Web banners                    | \$ 710.00           |
| <b>Total Income</b>   |                                | <b>\$ 19,733.72</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>       | Telstra                        | \$ 899.91           |
|                       | Eureka                         | \$ 208.11           |
|                       | Meeting expenses               | \$ 1418.47          |
|                       | Honorarium                     | \$ 4000.00          |
|                       | Computer upgrades              | \$ 168.24           |
|                       | Postage                        | \$ 156.10           |
|                       | Top up VFFA business cards     | \$ 5500.00          |
|                       | Travel expenses                | \$ 710.23           |
|                       | Stationary                     | \$ 685.61           |
|                       | Engel Fridge photo comp        | \$ 1078.51          |
|                       | Auditor                        | \$ 440.00           |
|                       | NSW fair trading               | \$ 54.00            |
|                       | Business insurance             | \$ 1439.26          |
| <b>Total Expenses</b> |                                | <b>\$ 16,758.44</b> |
|                       | Balance Carried Fwd (01/07/15) | \$ 38,908.60        |
|                       | Net Profit(Loss)               | \$ 2975.28          |
|                       | Balance as at 30/06/16         |                     |
|                       | As per bank statement          | \$ 41,883.88        |

Represented by NAB A/C 79-128-1282