



Meeting opened: 10:34am

Attendance: Wes Garrett (Secretary) – Chair, Rory Thomas McCabe (President), Michael McDonald (ACT), Jesse Page (SA), Matt West (Tas), Chris Jones (WA), Pat Shanahan (Sth Qld), Dan Thompson (WHS Coordinator), Glenn Laurie (Vic), Zack Van Loenhout (NT) – Chris Putnam (NSW) arrived late.

Apologies: Justin Harpley (Nth Qld)

Acknowledgement to Country:

“We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognize their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture”.

Minutes of previous meeting

Moved: Wes Garrett

“that the Minutes of the previous BCOM meeting held on 4th August 2023 be received and adopted”.

Seconded: Pat Shanahan

CARRIED

Business Arising out of the Minutes

EA & Log of claims

EA log of claims submission received from Coffs Harbor Delegate.

Part 176 Policy Proposal

Catherine King meeting, liaising with national office for date that works with Greg McConville for a meeting, likely next fortnight.

Feedback from SA & WA Emergency services ministers received both have responded and provided submissions to the Part 176 policy proposal.

ALP Affiliation

President to sign up shortly.

Avalon

FOI request submitted to Victorian EPA regarding communications between them and Airservices. They have responded and approved access to 11 documents, ASA will have to enter an appeal to prevent the documents going public. Will likely go to administrative tribunal for decision.

Norfolk Island EA

Meeting this afternoon, President taking over primary negotiator role. BCOM SA will be sitting in as an observer for the negotiations also. A few claims to resolve. Main is wages, UFUA is seeking pay parity with ASA staff, which requires a 75% wage increase at LFF level. Council offered 15% over 3 years. Submission being drafted by NIRC requesting increase in funding from Federal Government.

ARFFS Workplace H&S Committee

Things are slowly coming together, ASA getting around what is required to be done. Non 24-hour long operation station recline facilities is the first item to be addressed by the committee. Directive issued to remove ARFFS coverage for late aircraft has escalated to dispute notification. ASA's remedy for dispute is for it to be picked up by the HSC, UFUA agree that is the correct forum.

Stations where operations are more than 15 hours a day and finishing/starting between 2200-0600 (Recline time) are the focus. Sunshine Coast is at the forefront of this issue. Mark Scanlon, Rod Evans, Matt Norrey, Shane Geyer to be at meeting in a fortnight. [REDACTED]

HSC will coincide with face to face meeting in Adelaide with Secretary, President, WHS Coord, Scanlon and Norrey.

BCOM voted to ratify costs to cover travel.

CASA Meeting

Response from Brad Parker. 3rd email.

"We're very busy, but what would you like to talk about?"

On the agenda will be Brisbane FCC remote monitoring, CASA tech (XVR), Western Sydney proposed virtual FCC.

Transfers Committee

The committee has reviewed the document, during EA negotiations ASA dug their boots in on this simple clause. UFUA wanted all existing employees to have preference for vacancies, ASA wouldn't have a bar of it, hence the 1:3 ratio. The proposed procedure provides existing employees with preference to backfill vacancies and clarifies the framework/cycle and notification process. Have also requested data be published identifying where the vacancies are and application numbers to assist candidates to understand where they stand/demand.

Airservices Consultation

WRS

Haven't had official confirmation that Townsville boat is coming back but the word on the street is that it's likely.

TRA dispute

Lots of work in the background. In FWC last week, correspondence to Ashurst (ASA lawyers), requested copies of cat 8/9 and 9/10 TRA for Adelaide and Melbourne. We know there isn't an actual TRA for CAT 9 for Adelaide and Cat 10 for Melbourne. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DRV's

They are back, cross crewing withdrawn, must be fully staffed. Raised this issue with Minister via detailed letter in June. The TRA dispute also included a question to be arbitrated regarding provision of DRV/correct staffing, that question is now remedied. Great win.

Union wants a signed letter stating ASA has an obligation to staff the DRV's, and if they can provide BCOM may consider allowing the PSS to proceed to the next step only.

Unions position is unchanged regarding the PSS (non-punitive, voluntary etc.) can pull it up at any time.

Bluegum clothing/Online Store

Online Store construction is underway, ordered 100 hoodies, 40 caps. Liaising with VIC branch and ACT branch to combine orders. If we can combine our orders the difficulty with minimum orders will disappear.

Fleet Acquisition Project

Confirm whether Ben Watson is interested in taking up BCOM nomination.

Mick McDonald – Oshkosh will supply the Western Sydney Vehicles, we are the first order. Hybrid Trucks, no hose reels, all done from cab. Trucks will be green/yellow. Similar to our current fleet on markings. 6wd. Fits 4 in cab, lots more locker space, Mick happy with specifications. 12000 liters, 36 tons, slightly longer trucks.

Proposal to go to c class foam which lowers agent/discharge rates.

The initial plan was to replace original fleet by 2030, current mk8 fleet may not last that long, indications that trucks will be rolled out to other stations beginning 2026/27.

There is talk of DRV's being replaced, rumor being they will be F trucks. BSEC advised President should be involved in the project if/when it happens.

Airservices Corporate Plan outlines 491-million-dollar investment for ARFFS

PPE Procurement

No movement yet, still no female representative, WHS Coord to search and advise as soon as we have a willing nominee.

11:10 Pres left meeting

Correspondence

Letters from SA and WA government ministers

ASA corporate plan, a handful of very good statements of expectation from the Minister, each of which is consistent with the briefing material we have been providing her Dept for some time now. A positive indicator.

11:22 Dan Thompson left meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12:35pm



.....
Rory McCabe

BRANCH PRESIDENT