

**Meeting opened: 10:46am ACDT**

Attendance: Wes Garrett (Secretary) – Chair, Rory Thomas McCabe (President), Jesse Page (SA), Chris Putnam (NSW), Dan Thompson (WHS Coordinator), Chris Jones (WA), Justin Harpley (North Qld) 10:55, Patrick Shanahan (South QLD) 11:04, Ben Chugg (TAS), Mick McDonald (ACT).

Apologies: Glenn Laurie (Vic), Zack Van Loenhout (NT).

Acknowledgement to Country:

"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture".

Minutes of Previous Meeting

"That the Minutes of the previous BCOM meeting held on 19th January 2024 be received".

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: BCOM SA

Carried

Correspondence

Correspondence was provided in the branch google drive.

Accounts for Payment

Accounts for payment were provided in the google drive and ratified by BCOM.

ARFFS EA 2024 – At the bargaining meeting held 31/1/2024 UFUA highlighted to Airservices that we've got a couple of weeks left until NED and it's time to stop discussing and to start bargaining. Consistent with good faith bargaining principals UFUA asks for Airservices to respond in writing to every one of our log of claims proposals with reasons for each decision, and we expect that the response be provided to us at our next meeting which at that stage was the following Wednesday. Airservices requested more time to consider their response subsequently, we agreed to postpone the next meeting to 15/2/2024. BCOM tasked with encouraging delegates and members in their regions to read and distribute copies of the UFUA log of claims.

Links provided in our EA updates, Facebook and UFUA web page. Copies to be printed and tabled in FCC's and mess rooms.

Norfolk Island EA – Continue to advocate for Government grant to enable wage parity. In the meantime, members have called for PIA. IO's tasked with actioning formalities i.e. application to FW, identify actions, ballot etc.

ARFFS Workplace HSC – Airservices have called for a "high level" meeting with WHS Coord, President and Secretary to discuss "a path forward". Very interested to see what they want to put on the table. Meeting will take place week of Feb 5th.

CASA – UFUA remains committed to meet with CASA to discuss ongoing reg compliance issues. Brad Parker has not been helpful, have not had meaningful interactions with CASA since Brad requested all correspondence be forwarded to him.

UFUA Online Meeting Software – Currently hold 3 different licences for online meetings. Zoom, Microsoft Teams and Google Meet. We will trial Google Meet (UFUA workspace account) and all going well transition all UFUA meetings to this application. Zoom subscription is not required all online meeting functionality is provided by Google Meet.

Revalidation of TRA – Opportunity to get another BCOM involved, call put to BCOM for nominations. This will be a significant and time-consuming exercise. Secretary and Trevor Rogers have been running with this for some time. Awaiting Airservices availability for briefing meeting.

ARFFS Fleet Procurement – Snr VP provided update to BCOM. Project has slowed up due to management restructure. DRV procurement has likewise slowed right down.

50 Year Anniversary t-shirts – Order of 1000 t-shirts has been placed. 5–6-week turnaround. Delegates to be provided with sizing order sheets, will take the opportunity to update postal and email addresses. FB notice will be posted next week.



Meeting with CivilAir – Secretary and president will meet with CivilAir Secretary and President in Melbourne on Wed Feb 7th. Will discuss EA progress and Airservices regulatory compliance.

Sunshine Coast/Launceston Withdrawal of ARFFS – Media and Political campaign highlighting regulatory compliance issues/affected aircraft ready to go. Fatigue, amenities and rosters are all WHS issues, affected aircraft are breaches of the regs. Airservices want to pick one, we say both are underpinned by legislation the question should not be which one do we comply with, the question should be how we comply with both. Possible compliance issues at Gold Coast also.

RC #99 Membership/Direct Debit – BCOM to coordinate with Delegates to ensure all outstanding direct debit forms are completed. 10 recruit members remain unfinancial.

EVT's Request for UFUA Membership – Secretary and President met with Lance Biffen and discussed pro's and cons of Lance's proposal. BCOM briefed on outcomes of meeting. Legal advice and due diligence required before any decisions can be made. Broad discussion between BCOM ensued. Ultimately BCOM do not see this as a priority given EA negotiations x 2, current status of corporate agreement, TRA etc. representation of firefighters comes first, if there is industrial capital (PIA) to be made there may be a reason to investigate, what's in it for our members?. A range of questions need to be asked (separate agreement, alignment of NED, CPSU demarcation etc. BCOM not adverse to asking these question, but not in a hurry to do so at this time.

Comcare and Codes of Conduct – Several new Comcare claims have been approved by BEX. Two new Code of Conduct investigations have also been added to our list of matters.

Branch Finance Software Database Upgrade – Nicholas (IO) has been tasked with identifying a partner organization that deals with "Claris FileMaker". We've compiled a list of all the things that we need to bring this database up to 2024 standards, we're going to have the Claris expert upgrade our existing software. We have several collection methods i.e. direct debit, credit card and payroll. We need to streamline this process, FileMaker only accepts direct debit, we need to transition all members over to direct debit.

New Membership Application – Nathan Rigby

Motion:

That the BCOM accept the membership application of Nathan Rigby.

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: BCOM ACT

Carried: Unanimous

Industrial Officer Professional Development – Nicholas has requested BCOM approve his attendance at the following ACTU Course - Industrial Foundations Face-to-face | 21 – 24 May | 9:00am to 5:00pm.

The cost is \$858. BCOM approved participation in the training as proposed.

BCOM PIA Committee – BCOM discussed standing up a PIA committee to coordinate PIA actions should the need arise. The following BCOM will constitute the PIA Committee.

- Jessie Page
- Chris Putnam
- Chris Jones
- Paddy Shannan
- Wes Garrett
- Mick McDonald
- Rory T McCabe

Meeting closed at: 12:15 ACDT



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Rory T McCabe
PRESIDENT

