

**Meeting opened: 10:38am ACDT**

Attendance: Wes Garrett (Secretary), Chair - Rory Thomas McCabe (President) 10:41, Jesse Page (SA), Chris Putnam (NSW), Dan Thompson (WHS Coordinator) 10:45, Chris Jones (WA), 10:55, Ben Chugg (TAS), Mick McDonald (ACT) 11:07, Glenn Laurie (Vic), Zack Van Loenhout (NT), Justin Harpley (North Qld).

Apologies: Patrick Shanahan (South QLD)

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 16th February 2024 be received".

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: BCOM NSW

Carried: Unanimously

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.

TRA Documentation – BCOM discussed and reviewed TRA summary documents provided by Airservices (at Ministers direction). Every location in the country is classified as HIGH or EXTREME risk. BCOM agreed going public with the documents will be a powerful tool to substantiate log of claims re: staffing schedule.

UFUA Branch Elections – The Secretary thanked all of BCOM for their commitment over the duration of the last term and encouraged all to consider renominating for their positions in the upcoming election period.

RC #99 Non-Financial Members – 7 remain unfinancial. BCOM to continue to coordinate with delegates.

Comcare and Codes of Conduct – 5 new Comcare referrals.

ARFFS EA 2024 – EA Meeting held on Fri Feb 23rd. Airservices running lock step with APS bargaining policy (except for 15.4% super). Not willing to consider anything not aligned with the policy, which is pretty much everything. UFUA wage, super, hours of work and staffing claims rejected. BCOM's desire to immediately issue a Protected Action Ballot Order was actioned late Friday afternoon. FWC decision was issued Tuesday evening. All actions have been accepted including "go-slow" cat drops and work stoppages. We had concerns over our amended (improved) undertaking regarding public safety, but we were able to get them over the line on the basis that public safety will not be compromised due to 7 days' notice being provided and subsequent issuing of NOTAM, allowing industry sufficient time to reschedule or cancel flights during notified periods. If airlines continue to operate during this time they would do so in full knowledge of the risks to passengers and crews, Airservices' would also be in breach of international and domestic safety legislation.

We will now organise our online ballot using TrueVote. Ballot will begin 6/3/2024 and end 18/3/2024.

Parties to bargaining are required to participate in a compulsory conference at the FWC. This will take place next Friday 8th March.

Media campaign strategy is underway.

Prospects of conducting a vote of NO confidence (and who it will include), delegates submissions for additional PIA actions and details around approved PIA was discussed at length by BCOM.

Airservices can move outside of the policy if they choose, and a submission is put to the Minister to do so. We have proposed to work with them on a joint submission for an exemption. BCOM discussed the merit of an open letter to CEO Harfield. Ministers' office has been briefed re: success of PABO and prospects of category drops and work stoppages.

All Airservices agreements are now expired, corporate, ATC and ARFFS. Secretary has been liaising with relevant unions.

PFAS Health related Comcare Claim – A retired member whom we referred to ELS contacted us recently to advise that a number of notable law firms are jockeying to represent our member in a PFAS related bladder cancer claim (bladder cancer has a well-known **association** with PFAS exposure). The outcome of this case has the potential to be the first in Australia to set a legal precedent concerning workers exposed to PFAS in the workplace.

National Branch seeking reps for ACTU Women's Conference – BCOM discussed possible nominees. Ultimately, Alison Walters was nominated Secretary will liaise with her.

Meeting closed at: 11:44 ACDT



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Rory T McCabe
PRESIDENT

