

**Meeting opened: 10:35am ACDT**

**Attendance:** Wes Garrett (Secretary), Chair - Rory Thomas McCabe (President), Jesse Page (SA), Chris Putnam (NSW), Dan Thompson (WHS Coordinator), Chris Jones (WA), Ben Chugg (TAS), Mick McDonald (ACT), Glenn Laurie (Vic), Patrick Shanahan (South QLD).

**Apologies:** 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**

Minutes from meetings held on 1/3/2024 & 12/4/2024 were presented and confirmed by BCOM.

**Moved:** Secretary

**Seconded:** BCOM SA

**Carried:** Unanimous

**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.

**Airservices Board Nominations**

Representation has been made to the Minister around resetting the Airservices board. UFUA nominated candidates have been forwarded to the Ministers office for consideration.

**UFUA Nominations**

Kim Carr

Former Senator of Australia

Gavin Marshall  
Former Senator of Australia

Kenneth Brown FRV Deputy Commissioner in the Office of the Fire Rescue  
Commissioner.

The Hon. Lisa Neville<sup>[1]</sup> Former member of Victorian Parliament between 2002 and 2022

Professor William Mitchell Chair in Economics Director of the Centre of Full Employment and Equity (CoffEE), an official research centre at the University of Newcastle, Australia. He also is the Docent Professor in Global Political Economy at the University of Helsinki. He also is a JSPS International Fellow at Kyoto University, Japan.

UFUA reiterated it previously stated position to the Minister concerning her ability to appoint an employee representative to the Board.

#### AIR SERVICES ACT 1995 - SECT 22

##### Membership

(1) The Board consists of:

- (a) a Chairperson; and
- (b) a Deputy Chairperson; and
- (c) the Chief Executive Officer; and
- (d) 6 other members.

(2) The members other than the Chief Executive Officer are to be appointed by the Minister, and hold office on such terms and conditions (in respect of matters not provided by this Act) as are determined by the Minister in writing.

(3) The Chairperson may be appointed on a full - time basis or on a part - time basis.

(4) The other appointed members are to be appointed on a part - time basis.

(5) An employee may be appointed as a member under paragraph (1)(d).

#### **UFUA 50yr Anniversary Merchandise**

Junior industrial officer has asked for Bluegum for pricing for additional 50yr anniversary merch. Some members have not received the correct sizing, this will be rectified when we place another T-shirt order. Some sizes being exchanged between Coffs Harbor and Tullamarine.

**RC #99 Non-Financial Members** – 3 remain unfinancial. BCOM to continue to coordinate with delegates.

1. Nathan Muskee      Townsville
2. Chad Fallins      Whitsundays Coast
3. Akira John Fujii      Townsville

#### **ARFFS Workplace HSC**

WHS Coordinator provided a status report. Face to face meeting to be scheduled in the near future. Airservices have agreed to final wording of the constitution which will be ratified at the inaugural meeting. Comcare have been contacted by WHS Coord to

provide advice on outstanding elements of constitution. Both parties will be made up of 8 members, there will be 2 x F2F meetings per year. Employee reps continue to develop agenda items.

### **Sunshine Coast 24 hours of Operation**

UFUA has received an official letter from Naomi Arthur stating that they will be transitioning to a 24 hours of operation.

### **Aviation Branch Letter of Support to Peter Marshall**

The Branch has issued a letter of support to Peter Marshall to assist with current VIC Branch election campaign. Peter and the VIC Branch have been longstanding allies of the Aviation Branch.

### **EA Negotiations Update**

Fire Service Wage Comparison Spreadsheet presented to BCOM. Aviation firefighters have moved back to first place. After first wage increase of new agreement aviation firefighters will be back on track with CPI.

Final drafting of EA and deed underway, face to face meeting with legal teams will take place next Monday 29th, other than wording of the deed only a couple of lower-level issues (integration of APS common conditions) to work through. Likely to be completed by next week, can then go to the members and ballot process. From there the timing will be at the mercy of the approval process by the Fair Work Commission, Airservices have said they can/will fast track the process as they were able to do with the corporate agreement.

### **Branch Finance and Database Software Upgrade**

Underway, junior industrial officer coordinating. This upgrade is long overdue and will substantially reduce unnecessary manual processing. The upgrade will also be directly integrated with Mailchimp, Facebook, Survey Monkey etc.

### **Norfolk Island Fire Service EA Negotiations**

Senior industrial officer continuing to drive the PIA with support of local members, local media etc. Political advocacy continues. NIRC have adopted a tightfisted anti-worker position a real bloody-minded approach.

### **BCOM Honorariums**

2023-24 BCOM honorariums have been approved and sent to Cecilia for processing.

**Motion:** That the BCOM agree to pay Jesse Page a one-off Information Technology honorarium of \$2,000 for the previous 12 months in lieu of taking responsibility for this work in the absence of adequately trained staff.

**Moved:** President

**Seconded:** BCOM NSW

**Carried:** Unanimous

**FIFO Enquiries**

Ros Neagle and Lee Robuck submitted emails for consideration of BCOM.

- 1 week on 1 week off alternate roster pattern – Rejected by Airservices and conceded by the UFUA during bargaining.
- Increases in FIFO allowances – To be increased in line with 11.2% APS increase
- When calculating the number of 12 hour periods for the purposes of (a) & (b) above, employees may to & from include 2 hours travel from the FIFO work location", this should be amended to read, 1 hour before & 1 hour after the flight to the FIFO location. – Too late to include in this round of bargaining, can include for next round.
- 15 day on 13 day off roster, should be 14 on 14 off. – BCOM interested in receiving more detail on this one.

BCOM discussed these issues and reviewed a FIFO salary and OT table. Members have mentioned an Airservices "FIFO Working Group" the group appears to have UFUA delegates involved. Discussions from this WG have not been passed on to BCOM. BCOM agree there may be value in this WG if it has appropriate UFUA representation. BCOM agrees that unlike other rostering options, FIFO is a choice, if members are unhappy with the conditions we would encourage members to not sign up. An inability to fill the positions is an issue for Airservices.

**Membership Application**

Jarred Arnold, ARFFS Alice Springs

**Motion:** That the BCOM accept the membership application of Jarred Arnold, ARFFS Alice Springs.

**Moved:** BCOM VIC

**Seconded:** BCOM SA

**Carried:** Unanimous

**Comcare and Codes of Conduct** – 3 new Comcare referrals.

**ACTU Advocacy Course**

BCOM approved a request from our junior industrial officer to attend the course as a part of his professional development.

**Meeting closed at: 12:41 ACST**



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Rory T McCabe  
PRESIDENT

