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**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
OF DIVISION 4 HELD ON SATURDAY  
2 February 2019 @ Hornsby Ku-ring-gai FCC**

**1. WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed all delegates to Hornsby Ku-ring-gai FCC and opened the meeting at 10:00 and said, "I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on Aboriginal land of the Garrigal peoples and we recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of Aboriginal people in this land"

Anthony Macveen on behalf of the District Manager welcomed delegates to Cowan and outlined the features of this FCC.

**2. PRESENT**

Ian West	Blue Mountains	Andrew Macdonald	Macarthur
David Wynd	Cumberland	Col Spinks	Macarthur
Sue Devenyns	The Hills.	Peter Burfitt	Gosford / Sec.
Chris Tierney	Central Coast	Jim Smith	The Hills
Ken Middleton	RFSA President	Len Carter	Sutherland
David Horacek	Hawkesbury	Ron Hughes	Nthn Beaches
Lesley Smith	Cumberland	Allan Brett	Nthn Beaches
Greg Griffiths	Hawkesbury	Allan Catt	Blue Mtns
Robyn Catt	Blue Mtns	Vanessa Browning	Hawkesbury
Chris McIntosh	Hornsby	Matthew Devlin	Hornsby
John Holmes	Wollondilly	Anthony Macveen	Hornsby

**3. Apologies**

Moved by Chris McIntosh that the following apologies be accepted. Seconded David Horacek CARRIED

David Stimson	Wingecarribee	Furio Micheli	Sutherland
Gail Simpson	Central Coast	Barbara McCarthy	CORE
Steve Robinson	RFSA Secretary	Alex Milgate	Nthn Beaches

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Secretary tabled a summary of the division’s correspondence received and sent since the last meeting. Copy attached. Moved Ron Hughes that the correspondence be accepted. Seconded Lesley Smith. CARRIED.

**5. PREVIOUS MINUTES.**

Moved by Ian West that the minutes be accepted. Seconded Ron Hughes. CARRIED

**6. BUSINESS ARISING.**

**a. Freeway & Motorway crossovers.**

RMS has not commenced the Risk assessment of existing crossovers. Issue for RFS as the is a legal question as to when are RFS vehicles classified as emergency vehicles, as it is not clear in the Rural Fires Act; nor will the RMS add the RFS to existing signs. RFSA has been in regular contact with the Minister for Emergency Services who supports the RFSA’s position. The Roads Minister is proving intractable and refuses to assist in this matter. The Premier is most reluctant to intervene. The policy is part of the RFSA’s election brief

**b. Keelty Inquiry**

The call centre is the biggest issue arising from the inquiry that is keenly watched by affected parties. A dispatch centre operated by staff, independent of either Fire Service was recommended by the inquiry and is strongly supported by the RFSA. Six options have been prepared and put to government. The call centre must be seen as being at arms length from the RFS and F & R otherwise it will not work as recommended.

**c. RFSA Election Policy**

The RFSA policy has been developed and pamphlets prepared. These are available from the RFS. They have been distributed to all sitting members and will be issued to all candidates after the closing of nominations by the Electoral Commissioner. Members are asked to promote these locally. PDF copies are available.

Moved by Len Carter that the RFSA staff be congratulated for the speedy design and production of the pamphlet and that it be made available in printed and PDF form to all Branch Chairs and Secretaries Seconded Jim Smith CARRIED.

**7. REPORTS**

**a. State Council**

Report tabled. Chairman led a discussion on the quality and quantity of

Business Papers. Assistance is available from the Division Chair and Secretary in completing the pro forma. He stressed the need for the Division to maintain its production of quality business papers to keep the Consultative committees delivering on behalf of volunteers

**b. Consultative Committees**

No meetings

**c. Branch Reports**

Highlights include Central Coast, a new District Manager and improvements in decision making; Hornsby, a new brigade formed the first in about 50 years; Northern Beaches, their FCO has returned from an extensive secondment; Wollondilly, branch merger between Wollondilly and Wingecarribee is happening

**8. BUSINESS PAPERS**

**a. Outstanding Papers**

- i. Crewmember ID. RFS seeking tenders to provide a resolution that meets brigade needs and its own that will integrate with existing RFS systems.
- ii. Auto Vehicle video- Closed
- iii. Hino Grab Handles- Although shown as complete no modifications have been rolled out nor completed to the Divisions knowledge. The Division 4 believes that these Business Papers must be listed as “open” until the actual solution is delivered and not just discussed.
- iv. Vehicle Modifications list – Listed as complete but no outcome delivered. See above re closures
- v. Brushcutters – endorsed by State Council and submitted
- vi. HQ Foyer – State Council agreed to hold this paper over until its next meeting to give more time for members to visit the foyer and for the RFS to “settle in”.
- vii. Cold Weather PPC – endorsed by State Council and for consideration by all Consultative Committees.

Discussion ensued about the treatment of business papers generally and the shutting down of them when the delivery of the solution on the ground is far from complete.

**b. New Business Papers**

- i. **Flashing Sign 40kph on trucks** – Carried over from last meeting. Discussed, no formal paper CLOSED
- ii. **Short Hoses 25mm** – Moved by Anthony Macveen Seconded by Col Spinks that the Paper be referred back to the relevant district for resolution. Options were provided to the relevant branch to resolve this matter. CARRIED.

## 9. GRANTS

- a. **Megalong Valley Grant** –District still to submit copy of financial plan to divisional secretary.
- b. **Castlereagh**. Brigade to seek approval for installation from Engineering services and update their financial information. Grant will be considered by Div. Exec when info is supplied. Still waiting.
- c. **Hornsby – Killara Brigade** New brigade seeking Thermal imaging Camera Ipad GPS and furniture for their truck/station. CARRIED
- d. **Hawkesbury District Special Grant**- 3 thermal imaging cameras for the brigade recently supplied with and trained in CABA. CARRIED 4 abstentions.
- e. **Hawkesbury** – Upper Colo Ride on mower. Mover by David Horacek and Seconded by Len Carter that the application be approved in principle subject to the brigade providing a financial plan for its available funds. CARRIED.
- f. **Hornsby** – District Office special grant for fire danger sign covers for use in winter. Withdrawn by branch.

## 10. GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. **Branch /Division elections** – The RFSA constitution has been changed to implement alternate election years for State Council and the board. Transitional provisions have been put into the constitution extending the terms of Branch and Divisional office holders to three years so the next election is due in 2020. Board elections will be held this year.
- b. **Grants and brigade bank balances**. It was resolved that where a brigade has a bank balance in excess of \$5000 they be encouraged to provide a financial plan covering the nature and purpose of those funds. Moved by Andrew Macdonald Seconded Chris Tierney that the Secretary write to the acting RFSA CEO seeking incorporation of this in the grant application material– CARRIED.
- c. **Hornsby** –thanks to all those who assisted with the recovery after the recent storms in the district
- d. **Emergency Services Volunteers support scheme funds**- Secretary to distribute last years guide to all noting that applications open generally in April.

**40kmh speed limits** – supported by all Commissioners. Police showing some reluctance and Minister for Roads unco-operative. RFSA stickers are available for members to put on vehicles. Contact RFSA. The limit **IS THERE TO PROTECT MEMBERS ON ROADS**

## 11. VICTUALS -

Moved by Chris McIntosh and Seconded by Jim Smith Thanking the local catering brigade for providing victuals to delegates and approving \$575 reimbursement for the cost on product of the usual invoice CARRIED



## 12. Next Meeting

### Divisional Meetings 2019

27 April 2019 – Northern Beaches FCC AGM & General

15 June 2019 – TBA

3 August 2019 – TBA

2 November - TBA

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**Action**

<b>REF</b>	<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>Due Raised</b>	<b>Status</b>
	Crew Member ID	Div 4	June 2014	on going
	Grab Handles Hino	Cumberland	July 2016	on going
	Vehicle Mods List	Cumberland	Nov 2017	on going
	Brush Cutters BP	Blue Mtns	Nov 2018	New
	Foyer New Building BP	Div 4	Nov 2018	New
	PPC winter	Cumberland	Nov 2018	New
	Megalong Valley Grant	Blue Mtns	Nov 2018	Waiting
	40 KPH flashing lights		Nov 2018	Closed
	Castlereagh Grant	Cumberland	Nov 18	Waiting Engineering approval
	Upper Colo Grant	Hawkesbury	Feb 19	Financial plan
	Election Pamphlets etc	All	Feb 19	Obtain from RFSA HQ
	Grants applications and Brigade bank balances	Secretary	Feb 19	Write to RFSA
	Distribute Constitution extract and ES Grant info	Secretary	Fed 19	Done