

Air Dispatch Association of Australia
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
30 July 2011 Ipswich RSL

The meeting was opened by the President Gary Cole at 11 AM who welcomed all present.

Apologies were accepted from F Ruse, F Zuppar, M Fowler, A Dalton, R Filewood, J Taylor, D Carpenter, T Heydon, P Avalon, S Pemberton, A Leek, A Holmes, D Foster, P Slee, P Asbury, R Tyler, G Hunter, R Burney, R Blakely, C Nicholson, J Hunt, D Dray, J McLachlan, J Durney, J Scotland, G Buchanan, D McCann, R Hollins, R McCaffery, W Campbell.

Present were Gary Cole, Kemm Baber, Chris Gill, Bill D'Arcy, Tony Dowd, Ron Garland, Cyril Clark, John Knack, Chris Felkin and Barry Gannon

The Minutes of the previous meeting were tabled and discussed, Ron Garland raised a question as to a decision on the proposal to alter the name of the Association to include the word "ARMY" the meeting was informed by Kemm Baber that the proposal had only received feedback from about 12% of the members so the Committee did not proceed as it was too small a sample to act upon. It was suggested that it should be further considered at the reunion which is to be held later in this year at Penrith.

The President then briefly addressed the meeting to inform all that that it was intended to discuss the proposed reunion in more detail later in the meeting.

The Secretary requested the Treasurer to provide the number of financial members at present and was informed it was currently 136 members.

There being no further matters raised as to the previous minutes it was moved C Gill seconded Bill D'Arcy **That the minutes be adopted as a true account CARRIED**

The Treasurer Kemm Baber then provided a the **Profit and Loss statement and Balance sheet** for the year ended 30 June 2011 showing a profit of \$4,334-13 for the year and a balance of \$18,587-34 as at 30 June 2011. He went on to explain that the as this meeting was so close to the end of the financial year that the auditor has not as yet completed the audit. He also indicated that a large part of the increase was due to the Association not having paid Indemnity Insurance last year which required that we be Incorporated in Queensland which required the Constitution be amended so as to comply with the requirements of the Qld Fair Trading Act. Of course we are in the process of adopting a new Constitution that will comply but it is a very complicated process. An increase in dues also helped and there was some movement of stock. Delivering the "Clipped Wings" by email also made a big saving.

After some discussion it was moved Ron Garland seconded Bill D'Arcy **That the P & L and Balance sheet be accepted pending receipt of the audit CARRIED .**

(2)

The meeting then discussed the matter of the Constitution and after some further clarifications it was moved C Gill sec Kemm Baber **That the proposed new constitution be provided to the members as soon as possible with a short period for responses then registered once approved. CARRIED.**

President G Cole then declared **all positions vacant** and requested Tony Dowd take the chair as Returning Officer for the election Tony accepted .

Tony Dowd as Returning Officer then called for **nominations for President.**

Cyril Clark nominated Gary Cole who accepted nomination. There being no further nominations Tony declared **Gary Cole elected as President.**

He then called for **nominations for Vice President.**

Gary Cole informed the meeting that Warrant Officer Anthony Eddie now of AMTDU had indicated he was prepared to accept nomination as Vice President . Gary Cole then nominated WO Eddie which was accepted by Tony Dowd as a valid nomination , there being no further nominations he declared **WO Eddie elected as Vice President.**

He then called for **nominations for Secretary.**

Gary Cole nominated Barry Gannon who accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations Tony declared **Barry Gannon elected as Secretary.**

He then called for **nominations for Assistant Secretary**

Kemm Baber nominated Denis McCann who was not present but had indicated he was prepared to accept the nomination. There being no further nominations Tony declared **D McCann elected as Assistant Secretary.**

He then called for **nominations for Treasurer**

Barry Gannon Nominated Kemm Baber who accepted nomination There being no further nominations Tony declared **K Baber elected as Treasurer.**

He then called for **nomination for Merchandising Officer**

Gary Cole nominated Chris Gill who accepted the nomination, there being no further nominations Tony declared **Chris Gill elected as Merchandising Officer.**

He then called **nominations for State Reps**

Barry Gannon indicated that he had spoken with the following who were prepared to continue as State Reps , **Doug Carpenter** Western Australia, **Denis McCann** New South Wales, **Graham Papworth** Victoria and Tasmania, **The Secretary** would continue to represent Queensland, however Frank Zuppar wished to resign in South Australia and Gary Cole indicated that Nic Nicolai was moving from Darwin.

(3)

Tony Dowd then confirmed their election where it was indicated they would serve and suggested that the Association seek to **replace Frank Zuppar and Nic Nicolai if possible.**

Kemm Baber indicated he expected that the **Auditor** would be prepared to continue in that role and he would confirm that as soon as possible.

The President indicated he would contact **General David Ferguson** to request his continued role as **Patron of the Association.**

Tony Dowd then declared all positions possible filled and congratulated those who were elected he then passed the chair back to the **new President Gary Cole.**

Gary thanked **Tony Dowd** for acting as **Returning Officer** and commended the quick and business like manner in which he conducted the election.

The President then reported on a proposal by WO Anthony Eddie to organise a reunion for all Air Dispatchers Past and Present to be held probably at Penrith in late November 2011. The matter was discussed at length and since it was not possible given unit activities to hold it at RAAF Richmond the Penrith location was the alternative. The Association was informed that costs to stage it would be some thousands of dollars and it was hoped the Association could assist financially. After a great deal of discussion it was felt that the Association should give major support as it was exactly what the Association was formed to do. It was moved C Gill seconded C Clark **That the Association donate to the cost of the reunion the amount of \$2500. CARRIED**

Chris Gill also indicated that he would be prepared to make a submission to **DVA seeking financial assistance** for the reunion as there was an ability to obtain such assistance from DVA He would require the officers of the Association to sign and assist where necessary.

The Secretary also suggested that an appeal to our **members to make a personal donation** in the "Clipped Wings" and on the website might generate some finance also. It was agreed that he be authorised to do so with any donations to go to the Treasurer who would account for same.

The President then reported on an invitation to the Association to have an article published in the **Corp Journal** which we should take up. He indicated it was important to seek members among the female troops who now make up a very large section of the current unit. The Association will be putting together an article for the journal .

The Secretary then reported on the proposed 2012 reunion to be held now in Wellington New Zealand, it promises to be a very good and inexpensive reunion compared to most other locations, especially with the current exchange rate of about \$1-25 NZ to the Aussie dollar. Notice is on the ADAA website.

(4)

The President then displayed one of the **funeral sashes** purchased by funds remaining from the Arnhem reunion last year, the first was used at Nev Varleys funeral and was very well received by the family as a memento of the very high regard the Association held for Nev as a person and a member. Some sashes have been posted to each State rep for use at funerals of members.

Chris Gill then reported on financial assistance available through DVA for activities of Veterans Associations such as ADAA and indicated it might be possible to get subsidies for bus travel to allow people to attend meetings etc who might otherwise not be able to do so. More to follow.

The President then reported on the matter of the **banners of the Association** needing updating with new honours such as Timor Afghanistan and Iraq there was also a need to refurbish the accoutrements such as ropes and gloves etc. It was moved Tony Dowd seconded Ron Garland **That Chris Gill under the Presidents directions be authorised to arrange for the necessary work on the banners to be carried out as soon as possible. CARRIED**

Chris Gill then spoke about the activities of his RSL Branch at Gulgong in NSW , they have invited Mark Donaldson VC to the Gulgong RSL ANZAC Day commemorations in 2012. He also indicated that it would be a good venue for the **2013 ANZAC Day** reunion for the ADAA now that the proposal for Darwin that year will be difficult without Nic Nicolai being in Darwin. Some discussions took place re that suggestion and it was moved by the President seconded John Knack **That the reunion for ADAA in Australia in 2013 be held at Gulgong NSW on ANZAC DAY. CARRIED**

The Secretary then reported that there were investigations being made on our behalf by Ron McCaffery as to arranging an **International Reunion to be at Gallipoli on ANZAC Day 2015** the 100th Anniversary. More to follow.

The President reported that **Garry McGravies book on Air Dispatch in Australia** was further delayed for some minor changes but it was hoped to be published soon.

There being no further business the President thanked all who attended and asked them to join in a drink and meal and to have a safe journey home.

He closed the meeting at 11:55 AM