



SITREP 31/15

2015 AGM details

The State Committee of Management has resolved to hold the 105th AGM commencing Wednesday 28 October 2015 at the Union Office, 1 – 7 Belmore Street Surry Hills. The AGM Agenda is attached.

The **opening section** will be held on Wednesday 28 October commencing 1000 hours at the Union Office, 1 – 7 Belmore Street Surry Hills. Members are reminded that in accordance with Rule 11, the opening section of the AGM is the only meeting at which motions may be amended. The **closing section** will be held on Wednesday 4 November at 97 Station, Huntingwood, commencing 1800 hours.

Retained and/or **Country** Sub-Branch members may meet locally (but once only) prior to 1500 hours on Wednesday 4 November provided that:

- a) a quorum of least seven financial Union members will be present throughout the course of the meeting; and
- b) written notice of intention to hold a meeting together with the proposed time, date and location is received by the Union office by no later than 1700 hours on Thursday 15 October.

A full and final list of all Sub-Branch meetings to be held across the state (including Central Coast, Illawarra, Newcastle and Sydney Sub-Branches) will be published in SITREP 34 on Friday 16 October.

MFR sub-committee report available

The report of the Union's MFR sub-committee that was first announced in SITREP 18 is now available via the online version of this SITREP. The report is also listed at AGM agenda item no. 5.

Review of LF and LSO selection processes

The recommendations arising from the State Committee's review into the LF selection processes that was first reported in SITREP 20 is also now available and, like the MFR sub-committee's report above, is also on the AGM agenda. It had been intended that this would be a joint FBEU/Department review, but aside from conducting a brief online survey of its own that it has since done nothing with, the Department's inaction left the State Committee's with no option but to publish solo. The State Committee's 24 recommendations arising from that review can be found on the online in this SITREP, and will be considered at AGM agenda no. 6.

2016 Award claims

The AGM Agenda released today refers at motion 1 to the Union's 2016 Retained Award claim, and at motion 2 to the 2016 Permanent Award claim – in each instance to a draft award *"that was posted to the Union's website on 2 October 2015"*. Motions 3 and 4 also refer likewise. The reason for this delay is that with negotiations scheduled for next week, any document released today was likely to be superseded within a week. The final documents that members will be asked to endorse will therefore be released next Friday, 2 October with SITREP 32, thereby still allowing a full four weeks prior to the vote.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Casey".

Jim Casey
State Secretary

Friday 25 September 2015



105th Annual General Meeting Agenda

- **Meeting Open / Resume**
- **Adoption of Minutes**

“That the draft minutes of the combined 104th Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting held on Wednesday 29 October 2014 as tabled at this meeting be received and adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.”

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

“That the draft minutes of the Special General Meeting held on Wednesday 4 March 2015 as tabled at this meeting be received and adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.”

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

- **State Secretary's Annual Report**
- **Notices of Motion (No's 1 to 9)**

1. Endorsement of 2016 Retained Award claim

“That the draft 2016 Retained Firefighting Staff Award that was posted to the Union's website on 2 October 2015 be received and endorsed, and that the State Secretary be authorised to finalise negotiations and arrange for the making of a new Award on those terms.”

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

2. Endorsement of 2016 Permanent Award claim

“That the draft 2016 Permanent Firefighting Staff Award that was posted to the Union's website on 2 October 2015 be received and endorsed, and subject to the members' determination of AGM motion number 3 re: subclause 28.3.5 and motion number 4 re: Interstate and International Deployments, that the State Secretary be authorised to finalise negotiations and arrange for the making of a new Award on those terms.”

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

3. Amendment of Permanent Award subclause 28.3.5

“That the draft Permanent Firefighting Staff Award subclause 28.3.5 that was posted to the Union's website on 2 October 2015 and that (a) guarantees the release of members to take up a transfer and (b) removes the current 'three-strikes' provision, be received and endorsed.”

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

4. Interstate and International Deployments

“That the draft 'Interstate and International Deployments' clause that was posted to the Union's website on 2 October 2015 be received and endorsed in principle as a new clause within the Permanent Firefighting Staff Award.”

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

5. Report of the Union's MFR Sub-Committee

“That the report of the Union's MFR Sub-Committee that was posted to the Union's website on 25 September 2015 be received and noted and that the recommendations contained therein be adopted with the exception of:

- *Recommendation 3, which is rejected in favour of the continued use of 'MFR'; and*
 - *Recommendation 11, which is rejected on the grounds that incorporating a 'user pays' mechanism into MFR is not only politically regressive (it disproportionately impacts upon the disadvantaged), but also creates a financial incentive for increasing MFR response;*
- and further, that the Sub-Committee's members be thanked and congratulated for their work."*

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

6. Review of LF and LSO selection processes

"That the 24 recommendations arising from the State Committee's review of the recent LF and LSO selection processes that was posted to Union's website on 25 September 2015 be received, noted and endorsed."

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

7. Amendment of policy on UFUA funding

"That the April 2010 Special General Meeting decision to cease UFUA funding that currently reads:

'That effective on and from 1 July 2010, the Union is to cease forwarding any funds to the United Firefighters Union of Australia and/or its NSW Branch until authorised otherwise by a further General Meeting of members.'

be amended to now read as follows:

'That effective on and from 1 July 2010, the Union is to cease forwarding any funds to the United Firefighters Union of Australia and/or its NSW Branch unless and until:

- i) the NSW Branch is unable to meet a debt that is ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction to be paid, in which case the FBEU shall forward such amount to the NSW Branch as is necessary for the NSW Branch to comply with that order; or
- ii) the Fair Work Commission certifies amendments to the UFUA's Rule 29 (Moneys Allocated to National Fund) and Rule 34 (National Levies) that:
 - a) limit quarterly payments to the National Fund under Rule 29 to 10% of one financial unit for each full time member, and to 2% of one financial unit for each part time member; and
 - b) fix a "financial unit" at 5% of the weekly rate of pay of an FRNSW Senior Firefighter, rounded up to the nearest whole dollar; and
 - c) prevent the future imposition of national levies under Rule 35 without the approval of every Branch; and
 - d) prevent the future amendment, alteration or rescission of Rules 29 and 35 without the approval of every Branch. ' "

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

8. Appointment of Returning Officer

"That in accordance with Rule 22(1), this meeting appoints Comrade Travis Broadhurst as Returning Officer for the ensuing three years through until the Union's 2018 Annual General Meeting."

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

9. Life Membership – Comrade Matthew Murray (Rule 52)

"That in recognition of the significant contribution made by Comrade Matthew Murray as both an FBEU representative (Sydney South West Sub-Branch Secretary from February 2002 to June 2009, Organiser from February 2002 to December 2003, Death and Disability Superannuation Fund Director from 2010 to 2013 and Junior Vice President from June 2009 to April 2015) and as a tireless fighter for working people and union rights in a 37 year career across three fire services, this meeting resolves to admit Comrade Murray as a Life Member of the Union in accordance with Rule 52 (1)."

State Committee recommendation: SUPPORT

- **Meeting Adjourn / Close**

Jim Casey
State Secretary

Friday 25 September 2015