

**FAAAA Federal Council Meeting 2018**  
**Held at the FAA Museum HMAS Albatross Nowra on**  
**Saturday 27th October 2018**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Meeting opened by the Vice President at 1000ESDST**

**Present:**

**National Executive**

Phil Carey Vice President and Chairman  
Dick Martin, National Secretary  
Marcus Peake Webmaster & Database Manager  
Denis Mulvihill Treasurer

**Division Delegates**

**ACT: Nil**  
**NSW: Greg Wise, Terry Hetherington and Ron Batchelor**  
**QLD: Ray Murrell John Stewart**  
**SA: John Siebert , Roger Harrison**  
**TAS: Dennis Hinds**  
**VIC: Mal Smith**  
**WA: John Gregory Kelson, Mike Keogh**

**Observers**

Ray Larder, Geoff Litchfield, David Mowat, Kevin Camm, Fred Dawson, Ian Warren, Jim Lee, Paul Hodgkinson, Col Tietzel, Brad Hock, Graham Quick, Margret Maher, Leon Brown, John Grierson, Brian Sargeson and Robert Ray.

**Apologies**

Rear Admiral Mark Campbell CRC RANR National President.

**Welcome and Opening Remarks by the National Vice President:**

**The Chairman opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to all Delegates and observers. He informed the meeting that our Patron Rear Admiral Neil Ralph (Rtd) had extended an apology due to ill health.**

**The Chairman then extended an apology from our President Rear Admiral Mark Campbell CRC RANR who was on duty overseas at this time.**

**Remembrance of Departed Shipmates**

The Chairman then informed the members that we had over the past year lost a number of Shipmates

**“A minutes silence was then observed for departed shipmates.”**

**Guest Speaker**

The Chairman then invited our Guest Speaker COMFAA (Commodore Chris Smallhorn) to address the meeting.

Commodore Chris Smallhorn opened his address by thanking the Association for his invitation to attend last night's dinner saying he thoroughly enjoyed the evening. He also spoke to members about the speech given by Commodore Toz Dadswell (Rtd.) on Admiral VAT Smith (who is considered by all to be the father of the FAA).

Commodore Smallhorn also spoke of the times he had visited Lady Smith prior to her passing.

He stressed the point that members of the Association should endeavor to make contact with current members of the FAA assisting them with keeping the history of the FAA up to date. He then gave members a run down on the past current and future positions of the RAN Fleet Air Arm the main points being:

- a. In the mid 2000's the FAA was suffering from a lack of ability to meet its commitments to all tasks. Training was especially well behind its schedules mainly due to many of its trainers and skilled personnel being deployed to the Middle East to meet Australia's commitments in that area.
- b. In the past three years things have improved to such a degree that the FAA is now fulfilling its commitments to the government of the day. This has been achieved by hard work some astute planning for example the purchase of an up to date simulator for training so that the FAA is now able to field eight flights to ships at sea which conforms to their requirements.
- c. The MRH 90 squadron is also up to full strength of 3 flights and is meeting its requirements.
- d. The commissioning of Squadron 822x on Thursday 25th October 2018 now gives the FAA another capacity in its ability to meet its commitments. This squadron being made up of UAV's (Drones) and is currently evaluating a number of both Fixed Wing and Helicopter UAV's.
- e. Commodore Smallhorn ended his speech by giving members an idea of what he envisage the FAA's future role would be. He stated that he felt that it would be a combination of both manned and unmanned aircraft working together to give the fleet a far greater intelligence caper ability

“The information was concise and interesting and much appreciated by all present this was shown by a round of applause from the members”

### **Minutes of the 2017 FCM (Federal Council Meeting)**

All office bearers had previously received copies of the 2017 FCM Minutes and copies were available for members present.

**Moved:** South Australia

**Seconded:** Qld

**“That Minutes as read be accepted”.....Carried**

### **Business arising from previous Minutes**

**Nil**

## **Presentation of Life Memberships and Awards**

The Chairman presented John Gregory Kelson (Member W1380) of the Western Australian Division with his LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

### **REPORTS:**

(All reports are available as an Annex to these minutes)

#### **Presidents Report**

Moved: VIC

Seconded: SA

“That the President’s Report be accepted”.....Carried

#### **Secretary's Report:**

The Secretary's report was available to those present, and is also on our Website

Moved: NSW

Seconded: SA

“That the Secretary’s Report be accepted”.....Carried

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer informed the meeting that the Financial Statement for the year was still at the Auditors. However he had compiled an Interim Report which was available to all members present.

Moved: SA

Seconded: TAS

“That the Treasurer’s Interim Report be accepted” However as soon as the Audited version becomes available it be forwarded to all Divisions.....Carried

#### **Slipstream Report:**

The Editor, Ron Batchelor presented his report which is attached to the end of these minutes.

Moved: WA

Seconded: QLD

“That the Slipstream Report be accepted”.....Carried

#### **Wall of Service Report.**

The Wall of Service Administrator John Balazic apologies for his absence and his report is attached at the end of these minutes

Moved: SA

Seconded: NSW

“That the “WOS” Report be accepted”.....Carried

### **Webmaster's Report**

The Webmaster Marcus Peake tabled his report, which set out information on the FAAA Website, "FlyBy" newsletter, and statistics derived from the National Database.

**Moved:** SA

**Seconded:** NSW

**"That the Webmaster/Database Manager report be accepted".....Carried**

### **Fleet Air Arm Museum**

The FAAA Museum Manager Terry Hetherington presented his report to the members and the report is attached to these minutes.

**Moved:** QLD

**Seconded:** NSW

**"That the Museum Report be accepted".....Carried**

### **Registration Fees, Capitation Fees and Slipstream levy for 2018**

**Moved:** South Australia

**Seconded:** New South Wales

**"That Registration Fees. Capitation Fees and Slipstream Levy for 2018 be as follows:**

**Registration Fees.....\$10.00**

**Capitation Fees.....\$05.00**

**Slipstream Levy.....\$05.00 (per issue) (Hard Copy)**

**Slipstream Levy.....\$02.50 (per issue) (soft Copy)**

**.....Carried**

### **Special Resolutions and Notices of Motion**

#### **Special Resolutions**

NIL

#### **Notices of Motion**

**1. "That the Federal Council approve Mr. Paul Norris as the new National Database Manager, effective from 27 October 2018"**

Moved.... National Executive

Seconded.....South Australia.

The President of WA Division Mr. Greg Kelson asked the National Executive for information on how the proposed new Database Manager Mr. Paul Norris was selected.

The outgoing Database Manager Mr. Marcus Peake then informed the meeting of the following.

Two nominations had been received for the position. They were:

- Mr. Jeff Powis is an Associate member of the Association living in QLD. His location would make it more difficult to effect a handover, which requires ‘hands on’ time to adapt the database software to the incumbent’s computer and to offer one-on-one training.
- Mr. Paul Norris was an CPOATA and is a full member of NSW Division, living in Queanbeyan. He recently visited the existing DBM to gain an insight into what is required, and to test that the software runs on his computer.

Whilst both nominees are considered suitable, the location of Mr. Norris will make the handover and ongoing support easier. Accordingly, he is the recommended candidate.

There being no further questions or discussion the Motion was put to the meeting.

“That the Federal Council approve Mr. Paul Norris as the new National Database Manager, effective from 27 October 2018”

Moved.... National Executive  
Seconded.....South Australia.

Carried..... Unanimously

## 2. **FAAAA Roll of Honor**

**“That the Federal Council Meeting agrees to the following proposals:”**

- a. That a Governance Framework be adopted to protect the integrity of the FAAAA Roll of Honor and provide a process for any changes to it;
- b. The Governance Framework be attached to the National Constitution as an Annex;
- c. That any change to the FAAAA’s Roll of Honor Criteria can only be considered by the Federal Council in full understanding of the nature of the change and its implications;
- d. That any changes to the Content of the Roll (not its criteria) be considered by an expert panel of not less than three suitable people appointed by the National Executive, and
- e. The National President is the sign-off authority, having regard to the findings of the expert panel on each occasion.

Moved...National Executive  
Seconded.....South Australia

## **Discussion:**

WA Division stated that they were concerned that the full background to last year's proposal to involve the Sea Power Center had not been fully revealed.

It was pointed out by Mr. Marcus Peake (National Executive) that:

- a. At the 2016 FCM, WA Division raised a Special Resolution which sought to give the Federal Council the authority to approve eligible changes to the Roll. The Resolution was rejected, but it was agreed in general discussion that we would approach the Sea Power Centre to seek their agreement to be custodians of the Roll, with the FAAM Manager as the Delegate.
- b. The Sea Power Centre responded in October 2017. The matter was further discussed at the FCM a few days later, at which it was agreed to circulate a detailed draft proposal for out-of-session consideration.
- c. Some Divisions responded to the draft proposal with the following concerns:
  - the RoH is an unofficial list (as defined by DVA) and there is neither the mandate nor precedent for a government agency such as SPC-A to administer it, and
  - it was noticed that the SPC-A had unilaterally changed the wording of one of the RoH's criteria, which would have affected its content and ongoing eligibility.
- d. In February 2018, the National President wrote to all Division Presidents, advising that because of these concerns the proposal to use the Sea Power Centre as the governing body had been abandoned, and the FAAMA would continue to administer the Roll itself.
- e. Because the RoH remains a sacred part of our heritage that must not be subjected to ill-considered or spurious input, the National President's letter also flagged the intent to raise a special resolution at the next Federal Council Meeting, to propose a governance framework for the Roll. Divisions were invited to offer any suggestions as to the proposed governance, but none had been forthcoming.
- f. Mr. Peake indicated surprise that WA Division considered the full background had not been revealed as he had personally forwarded every piece of correspondence relating to it to the WA President. There had been full disclosure. He invited Mr. Kelson to contact him should he require any more information.
- g. There being no further discussions the motion was put to a vote

“The Motion was passed by 5 to 0”  
WA Division abstaining.

**3. WA Submission titled: “State Division President Representative Position Role”.**

Notice of Motion

The Federal Council adopts the establishment of the State Division President Position National Executive as an ex-officio position and approve incorporation of the Protocols and Procedures set out in Appendix 7 in Annex A; Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to the Constitution

Moved...WA Division  
Seconded.....

“This Notice of Motion lapsed due to the lack of a Secunder”

**Any Other Business**

WA Expense Claim - Notice of Grievance.

A letter of Grievance was tabled by the WA Division in relation to an Expense claim.

The Chairman stated that the Notice of Grievance had been considered by the National Executive and that this matter would stand as had been decided previously.

No furtherer discussion was forthcoming from the Delegates and the matter was closed.

WA Division.

The President of the WA Division (Mr. Greg Kelson) requested permission to address the meeting. The Chairman granted his request.

Greg addressed the meeting on the matter of communications, saying that he thought there should be greater communications between the National Body and all Divisions. He felt that more should be done in setting up things like video links to discuss matters that are important to the Association instead of Divisions having to travel from all over Australia for a once in a year meeting.

The Chairman replied that he would pursue this matter in the coming year and was hopeful this matter would come to a satisfactory solution.

MR Mike Keogh (WA) raised the question as to why it seemed that all members of the National Executive were NSW Members.

The Chairman replied by informing Mr. Keogh that the National Executive were elected on a three yearly basis and that any member was entitled to be nominated for a position on the National Executive as per Rule 14 of the Constitution.

**Next Meeting – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

There being no further business the President thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 1209ESDST.

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P. Carey (Vice President)

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R. Martin (Secretary)

Note From National Secretary:

“As had been previously advised our Patron Rear Admiral Neil Ralph (Rtd.) has officially resigned as of today (27<sup>th</sup> October 2018). Neil has been a valuable member to the Association not only as a past President but also our Patron over the past few years. The association tanks him for his service and advice and wishes him well at his new home in Queensland. “