



**Minutes of the 79th New Zealand Fire Brigades' Institute
Annual General Meeting
Hotel Grand Chancellor
Christchurch
28 February 2010**

MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 0820 hours.

President Rob Saunders called the meeting to order and welcomed members, delegates and observers.

He then introduced the NZFBI Council as follows:

- Immediate Past President Rick Eng
- Vice President Kerry Ferris
- Councillor Catherine Trevathan-Kendrew
- Councillor Ian Wellings

He then acknowledged the NZFBI Past Presidents present:

- Bruce Didham
- Emrys Evans
- Sandy Lawson
- Tony Swain
- Brian Watters
- Brendon Wood

Apologies were received from Past President John May and Past President Don Roper.

MOTION: That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: Vice President Ferris
Seconded: Councillor Wellings

The Motion was CARRIED.

Minutes of the 78th AGM

MOTION: That the minutes of the 78th Annual General Meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Moved: Past President Didham
Seconded: Past President Swain

The Motion was CARRIED.

President's Report

MOTION: That the President's Report, as contained in the UFBA Annual Report as circulated be accepted.

Moved: Past President Lawson
Seconded: IPP Eng

The Motion was CARRIED.

President Saunders spoke to the report and thanked and acknowledged a number of people who had supported the Institute through the year.

Presentation of Diplomas

President Saunders announced that the New Zealand Fire Brigades' Institute Councillors would like to convey their congratulations to all those who attempted NZFBI examinations in September 2009. 52 candidates sat a total of 108 exams from nine units available and 60 passes were achieved.

Whilst no candidates have requested to have their diplomas presented at this AGM, President Saunders acknowledged the following members who gained diplomas:

Members of the NZFBI (on passing any seven units)

Eddie Bellas	Waiouru Military Camp Fire Brigade
Shane Dudley	Wanganui Fire Brigade
Daniel Klaassen	Waiouru Military Camp Fire Brigade
Callan Reid	Linton Military Camp Fire Brigade
Samuel Thomson	Waiouru Military Camp Fire Brigade
Soane Tiseli	Linton Military Camp Fire Brigade
Ben Whittingham	Waiouru Military Camp Fire Brigade
Andrew Yaxley	Burnham Military Camp Fire Brigade

Associates of the NZFBI (on passing any four units)

Greg Fagg	Burnham Military Camp Fire Brigade
Desmond Ruru	Christchurch Airport Fire Brigade

Changes to the NZFBI Rules

A number of changes have been submitted by the NZFBI Council for consideration by the AGM.

MOTION: That Rule 4.1.1 be altered to read “The administration of the Institute shall be vested in a Council which shall consist of a President who will preside, a Vice President and two (2) members.”

Moved: IPP Eng

Seconded: Councillor Trevathan-Kendrew

Discussion:

- To align better with both the UFBA and contemporary service council organisations in relation to size, structure and length of member commitment.
- To ensure the NZFBI Council can continue to be administered in the most efficient and effective manner.
- Rule changes for the UFBA have better aligned both the Board and Presidential terms with contemporary expectations of service and commitment. A four (4) year term and commitment requirement to the NZFBI Council is more realistic to current expectations and conducive to attracting and retaining quality committed Council members.
- Past Presidents have traditionally remained available to provide support and knowledge to the current council on an informal but extremely valuable basis well beyond their Immediate Past Presidential year. The Council believe that the IPP does not need to remain a current member of the Council to perform this valued advisory function.
- Administration efficiencies gained from reducing the size of the Council will allow it to continue to function efficiently and effectively within budgetary requirements.

The Motion was CARRIED.

MOTION: That Rule 4.1.2 be altered to read “In the absence of the President at any meeting of the Council, the Vice President shall chair the meeting. A quorum for a Council meeting shall be three (3).”

Moved: Vice President Ferris

Seconded: Past President Lawson

Discussion:

- This is an administrative rule change to reflect the new structure of the Council without an Immediate Past President and recognising the role of a Vice President.
- By maintaining the quorum at three (3) either the President or Vice President must be in attendance at any meeting for a quorum to be achieved.

The Motion was CARRIED.

MOTION: That Rule 4.4.1 be altered to read “Members of the Institute who stand for council vacancies must be able to complete a term of four years.”

Moved: Vice President Ferris

Seconded: IPP Eng

Discussion:

- Administrative rule change to reflect the new structure of the Council membership and term.
- A four person council will result in the term and commitment of council members being reduced from five years to four years.

Past President Swain spoke against the Motion and gave his reasons – mainly he felt the five year term was okay. IPP Eng replied with an explanation.

The Motion was CARRIED.

Council Membership

President Saunders announced the result of the postal ballot held to elect a new member of the NZFBI Council:

- Allen Bestwick, Devonport Volunteer Fire Brigade – 21 votes
- John Stevenson, Sky City – 10 votes

President Saunders declared Allen Bestwick duly elected and welcomed him to the Council. Mr Bestwick was not present at Conference.

MOTION: That Allen Bestwick be elected as Councillor on the NZFBI Council.
Moved: Past President King
Seconded: Vice President Ferris

The Motion was CARRIED.

Guest Speaker

Sergeant Nigel Price of the Canterbury Region Crash & Investigation Unit was introduced to Conference. He explained he has had 17 years in the police and ten years in the Crash Unit.

Key points:

- Happy to exchange plans with the NZFS
- Outlined where crash units are in New Zealand
- Explained training requirements for crash unit investigators
- Case study courses
- Attend all fatal crashes and serious injury crashes
- Fire usually first, call us ASAP
- Crime scene security
- Assist police in calculating speeds etc for less severe crashes
- Talk to outside groups and schools about vehicle crashes
- Rely on Fire Service Act 1975 re: road closures
- Rely on volunteer fire and rescue firefighters mainly for scene protection
- Preserve
- Protect
- Be careful where fire trucks are parked
- Debris on road important to police
- If debris moved, note it or spray paint location
- Preserving life always first priority
- If already dead, leave cutting car alone
- A crash scene is a crime scene
- Talk to the Police

Sergeant Price answered various questions from the floor.

President Saunders thanked Sergeant Price for attending and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation and gift.

Installation of Executive

President Saunders thanked Immediate Past President Eng and acknowledged the excellent work done on the Council and recognised his intelligence, enthusiasm, passion and drive for the Institute. IPP Eng suitably replied and said he enjoyed every minute of his time on the Council. President Saunders then escorted IPP Eng from the stage to sit with the other Past Presidents. He then installed Kerry Ferris as the new President and presented him with the chain of office. President Ferris addressed Conference, outlined the plans for the next year and encouraged members to sit the Institute exams. He thanked the members of the Institute, extended special thanks to Immediate Past President Saunders and then installed his Executive as follows:

- Vice President Catherine Trevathan-Kendrew
- Councillors Ian Wellings
 Allen Bestwick (in absentia)

President Ferris also presented Rob Saunders with a Certificate of Appreciation and flowers for his wife in recognition of her support.

General Business

Following the announcement of the successful new Councillor, Past President Booth asked where the Sky City Fire Brigade was located. IPP Saunders explained that the unsuccessful candidate concerned was a financial member of the Institute and was, therefore, eligible to stand for Council.

MOTION: That Rob Saunders be made a Life Honorary Member of the Institute.

Moved: Past President Lawson

Seconded: Past President Eng

The Motion was CARRIED by acclamation.

President Ferris then presented Rob Saunders with a Life Honorary Medal and again, thanked him for his contribution. Rob Saunders suitably replied and said he was honoured to have this award bestowed upon him.

Members were invited to meet again later this year in Wellington.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 0930 hours.