

CENTRAL OTAGO FIRE BRIGADES' SUB-ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT	Nigel Greaves
VICE PRESIDENT	David O'Sullivan
TREASURER	Phil Greeks
SECRETARY	David O'Sullivan

Minutes of the meeting held at Cromwell Fire Station

Meeting opened at 1930 on Wednesday 10 July, 2024

Present

Alexandra	Mark Donald
Arrowtown	
Blackstone	
Clyde	
Cromwell	Kris King
Dunstan	Nigel Greaves
Frankton	
Glenorchy	
Lake Hawea	
Luggate	Matt Anderson, David O'Sullivan

Makarora

Millers Flat

Naseby

Omakau

Queenstown

Ranfurly

James Hazlett, William Dowling, Ewan Mason

Roxburgh

Tarras

Mark Donaldson

Wanaka

Ralph Fegan, Mark Strang, Phil Greeks

Guests

John Grenfell
Nic McQuillion
Scott Lanauze
Greg Harper

Apologies

John Haig
Tony Wellman
Russell Anderson
Fliss Matheson
Bobby Lamont
Aoife Sheehan
Alex Holden
Brian Timpson

Apologies sustained:

Donald/Fegan

CARRIED

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, are confirmed.

Taken as read

Hazlett/Donald

CARRIED

Matters arising

ACTION	PEOPLE	PROGRESS
Snow chains. Nic McQuillan says if you need them, send an email and ask. As a H&S matter they need to be provided	All brigades	Completed
Enquire about a Teams link so people can join in remotely	Dave O'Sullivan	July

Correspondence

Inwards

1. 10/4 various feedback on meeting minutes
2. 11/4 Cromwell confirming July's meeting date
3. 13/4 OSPFBA entry form for the RCR in May
4. 15/4 OSPFBA entry form for the RCR in May.
5. 25/4 Leadership workshop (UFBA) moved to June in Invercargill.
6. 8/5 Challenge dates and OSPFBA constitution
7. 12/5 OSPFBA AGM and Executive meeting minutes
8. 3/6 OS June general circular
9. 13/6 OS May meeting minutes
10. 13/6 OS invite to a July 29 meeting
11. 20/6 Driver's challenge entry forms
12. 2/7 OS July General circular

Outwards

1. 10/4 Sent out meeting minutes
2. 15/5 To OS to update mailing list and get the COFBSA address on the list.
3. 3/7 To FENZ for a one click list of all 19 COFBSA brigades for the emails.
4. 3/7 Reply to OS to confirm meeting attendance on July 29

Correspondence received

O'Sullivan/Greaves

CARRIED

Matters arising

Financial

Balance

Nothing of note, as per report presented.

Payment to host brigade of \$80 for supper costs

Greeks/Greaves

CARRIED

Matters arising

Reports

President's Report

President spoke briefly on potential prosecution of people who light unsafe fires.

Brigade Reports

Alexandra

70-80 calls, quiet. New medical center has opened up, seven days per week.

Arrowtown

155 calls for the year so far

Lots of people interested in courses, just struggling with booking them on as the courses are filling up rather quickly

Blackstone

Clyde

Cromwell

93 calls for the year. Four are heading away for senior courses. People are trying to get on courses for the QFF. Working towards October's 150 Jubilee. Alexandra have provided a crew to cover for the day, but are looking for another crew (October 12). Please contact them if anyone is keen.

Dunstan

Two new recruits. A bit of a mission getting recruits on courses, keen to get them on courses before the start of the fire season. Have a new-to-us appliance.

Frankton

Glenorchy

Lake Hawea

Trying to get people on the QFF course, potential new recruit. Challenging winter driving conditions on the Haast Pass.

Luggate

55 calls for the year, a few MVAs as late. Frustrations trying to get recruits on courses. A recruit has been waiting two years. No further update on red stickered (earthquake) station.

Makarora

Millers Flat

Naseby

Omakau

Queenstown

Ranfurly

3 or 4 calls since the last meeting. Three new rural recruits going through the medical side. A new ute has arrived. The deck is being put on it now.

Roxburgh

Tarras

First part of the year has been as busy as it ever has been. Two new recruits coming through, same issues with courses, can't get on them. No new news on building extensions.

Wanaka

129 calls for the year, messy weekend just gone with some difficult and unfortunate calls.

General Business

1. UFBA leadership workshop in Invercargill that we were asked to advertise was moved to Wellington.
2. For large incidents should we consider asking for the Dunedin or Invercargill Command Unit. They have computers, maps, access to GIS. Alexandra's unit is a volunteer command support, with no computers. It has extra BA sets and radios. GM Nic said if we need a bigger response we should call another unit. If we call and need Dunedin or Invercargill unit then it gives Central Otago a better business case to upgrade our Command unit. Similar to aerials, if we need aerials and call them, then that helps with a better business case to get an aerial in our area. Ensure you let the resources arrived if called, we tend to turn them back too early in this area (unless it is too icy).
3. Line 1 rescue kits have been removed from the trucks. Can we get the ground anchors and 60 meter rope back for safety reasons, such as anchoring cars and items on icy roads. The lack of Line 1 gear also means that the Line 2 stations are KO on that skill.

The general feeling was that our brigades wanted the rope back. GM McQuillion has already sent an email about it.

4. Recruit courses, new schedule came out for this year, there is only one showing in the South Island, and it is already full. How are brigades finding the training wait? Most brigades are having a really tough time getting FF on initial courses. GM McQuillion has been chasing this up, it is hoped that there will be more regional courses. Expect to see more open up. We can also try/attempt to get people on North Island courses. (Amanda is the training coordinator).
5. First aid courses; FENZ is artificially limiting travel to courses and requiring the closest courses, regardless of how additional weekends fit with FF time schedules. If there is a specific reason run it past GM Lamont or McQuillion and get their signature on it to carry more weight. Brigades are still having issues with first aid courses, and the external driven unit standards. The three month limit on expiry and having to do a two day course isn't fit for purpose.
6. PDAs. Do brigades get a say in what the turnout is? Brigade's should email their GM to have more or less resources attached automatically to a call. The GM will normally change it, but you may need a good argument. The same thing applies to boundary changes.
7. ACC payments. Secretary to write a letter to OSPFBA, as they can assist us. There's a lot of grey areas in this area, that we would like cleared up. John Grenfell suggested to make it a national issue.
8. Support vans and vehicle. If a brigade wants a ute, why can't they get a used VSO FENZ 4WD, instead of a \$150,000 new one. Challenging in this area due to our vegetation risks, and the fact that the Ivecos coming through are not suited for going off sealed roads. Even if VSO (etc) are leased, they are still fitted with reflectors, beacons and sirens and radios, and could be bought or transferred at a cheaper cost than a brigade having to fundraise huge amounts to then gift it to FENZ.
9. FENZ is risk averse to charging/fining people for problem fires. No ability to send people an invoice like the Fire Service Act. No cost recovery any more, and that was an effective way to deal with issues. There is no process around infringements in FENZ, seven years after the act came in. ORC do have some enforcement powers.
10. Tech panel to get waterway trophies back a month before the event. Update our subs waterway entry form to match or be similar to OS online fillable form.

Next Meeting Wednesday October 9, 2024 at Clyde.

Meeting Closed at 2100

Action Points generated from the meeting

ACTION	PEOPLE	PROGRESS
Kingston and QT Airport, ask them to join the CO sub (OS email Thurs August 3, 2023)	President	October
Enquire about a Teams link so people can join in remotely	President	October
Line 1 60 meter ropes to be returned to stations.	President	October
ACC top up letter.	O'Sullivan	August
Check and update agenda as there may be some omissions	O'Sullivan/Hazlett	October
New waterway entry form	O'Sullivan	August
Ask FENZ IT to set up an email list of all 19 Central Otago brigades. We are having issues with emails not arriving, particularly with attachments like minutes.	O'Sullivan	August
Chase up Nic Mc (GM) about issues raise at the July meeting	O'Sullivan	August
February meeting in the Wakatipu? For new members and officials? Should we put on food and a drink at the bar? List out meeting dates for 2025.	President	October