

CENTRAL OTAGO FIRE BRIGADES' SUB-ASSOCIATION

AGM MINUTES

PRESIDENT	David O'Sullivan
VICE PRESIDENT	Hemi Cordell
TREASURER	Phil Greeks
SECRETARY	Mark Davidson
CHALLENGE PANEL	Mark Donald Kris King

Minutes of the meeting held at Cromwell

Meeting opened at 1900 on Wednesday August 12, 2026

Present

Alexandra	Russell Anderson Mark Donald
Arrowtown	
Blackstone	
Clyde	John Haig
Cromwell	Aimee-Gene Hughes-Faiao
Dunstan	Nigel Greaves
Frankton	
Glenorchy	
Lake Hawea	Josef Oakes
Luggate	David O'Sullivan
Makarora	

Millers Flat

Naseby

James Hazlett

Omakau

Queenstown

Ranfurly

Roxburgh

Tarras

Wanaka

Ralph Fegan
Hemi Cordell
Phil Greeks
Tom Syben

Guests

LHM John Grenfell

Apologies

Kris King
Alan Humphrey
Willy Dowling
Paul Hart
Mark Davidson
Nic McQuillan
Bobby Lamont
Scott Lanauze

Apologies sustained:

O'Sullivan/Haig

CARRIED

Last Calls

A moment's silence was convened to remember FENZ members who had passed on.

Ex-fireman Ken Flockton
Ex-fireman & LHM Colin McMurray
Ex-fireman, Volunteer Support & LHM Richard Ryan
Ex-CFO Barney Theyers
Ex-fireman John Wilson
Ex-Third Officer John Symons

Ex-CFO Stuart Hore
Ex-CFO Colin Johnson (Luggate)

Minutes

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

Taken as read

O'Sullivan/Davidson

CARRIED

Matters arising

ACTION	PEOPLE	PROGRESS
Induct the new Vice President and Secretary	O'Sullivan	August COMPLETED
John Haig's LHM to be ordered	Mark Davidson	July COMPLETED and presented in October 2025
Induct the new Challenge Panel member Kris King	Mark Donald	August COMPLETED
Update Banking details	Greeks, O'Sullivan, Cordell, Davidson	September COMPLETED

Correspondence

Inwards

1. Banking confirmation
2. LHM from UFBA

Outwards

1. Sent out invites and agenda for the AGM. This was blended into the quarterly meeting, as were any replies

Correspondence received

O'Sullivan/Cordell

CARRIED

Matters arising

Financial

Treasurer's Report – Financial Year Ended 31 March 2026

The Association recorded total income of \$859.74 for the year, comprising \$850.00 in member subscriptions and \$9.74 in interest income. Operating expenses totalled \$1,204.88, primarily relating to honoraria and meeting and conference costs, resulting in a net deficit of \$345.14 for the year.

Despite this loss, the Association remains in a sound financial position, with total net assets of \$3,678.04 as at 31 March 2026. This includes cash holdings of \$3,228.04 and accounts receivable of \$450.00.

The current financial position provides a solid foundation for the Association's ongoing activities, and I thank members for their continued support through their subscriptions and participation.

Phil Greeks
Treasurer
02/07/2026

Brigade subscription is to remain at \$50 per year

Greeks/Oakes	CARRIED
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Reports

President's Report

It is my pleasure to present my report for the Central Otago Fire Brigades Sub Association for the past year.

It has been a very successful year for our Sub Association, with one of the biggest achievements being the significant increase in collaboration and consultation with our member brigades. As an Executive, we have made a conscious effort to ensure brigades are engaged in discussions and decisions that affect them.

One of the most noticeable changes has been the shift in how we communicate. While our quarterly meetings remain important, much more of our communication now occurs throughout

the year via email and phone calls. This has enabled us to respond more quickly to issues, seek feedback as matters arise, and maintain stronger connections with our brigades.

I am pleased to report that the Sub Association now has a full complement of elected Executive members. Having a full Executive has allowed us to share the workload, bring a wider range of experience to the table, and continue progressing initiatives that benefit our members.

We have also seen some exciting developments across the wider Otago region. The creation of a shared website for the North, Central and South Otago Sub Associations has been a great success, providing a central point for information, resources and communication. My thanks go to everyone involved in bringing this project to fruition.

Hemi has continued to develop the Cadet Programme, providing brigades with a valuable framework to better engage with their communities while supporting volunteer recruitment and retention. This work will continue to deliver benefits for many years to come.

There are also several important projects currently under development. These include flammable gas training tools, education modules for communities living in high fire-risk vegetation areas, locally focused training days that address regional risks and hazards, and ongoing work surrounding ACC issues affecting volunteers. These projects demonstrate our commitment to providing practical support and advocacy for our brigades.

Throughout the year, regular meetings have also been held between the Presidents of the five Otago-Southland Sub Associations. These meetings have strengthened relationships across the region, allowed us to share ideas and resources, and provided a stronger collective voice on matters affecting volunteer firefighters.

Fire and emergency's Volunteer Engagement Model consultation has cost \$1.1 million. This is enough to fund Volunteer's ACC coverage for four and a half years.

One area that has generated considerable discussion has been the Provincial Association finances. During the last financial year, the Provincial Association received \$23,650 in brigade subscriptions, based on contributions of \$275 from each of the 86 brigades. Executive meeting and travel expenses totalled \$13,022, with Honoraria accounting for a further \$3,000, resulting in an overall surplus of approximately \$3,800.

There have been many comments regarding whether this expenditure represents good value for brigades. These conversations are important, and members are encouraged to have them. However, if the membership wishes this matter to be formally debated or considered, it needs to be brought before this Sub Association as a properly tabled remit so it can be discussed and, if supported, progressed through the appropriate channels.

The Otago Southland Provincial AGM was attended in person by six of our 20 brigades. Three were Provincial Past Presidents, two were Sub Association Past Presidents, and the current Sub Association President. There has been lowering interest, even though the FENZ funds the AGM travel and accommodation for brigades.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of Mark Davidson, who has worked tirelessly advocating on behalf of volunteers regarding the ACC issues. Mark has been engaging with Members of Parliament, the United Fire Brigades' Association, and Fire and Emergency New Zealand to seek practical solutions. His dedication to this issue has been significant, and I look forward to hearing the progress he has made when he presents his report later this evening.

I would also like to thank my fellow Executive members for their commitment and the many hours they have contributed throughout the year. Thank you to all our member brigades for your continued support, your constructive feedback, and your willingness to work together. The strength of our Sub Association comes from its members, and I look forward to continuing to build on the progress we have made over the coming year.

Technical Panel Report

Thank you to the Tech Panel, Kris especially, and others that have assisted. COFBSA assisted in the set up and running of the OS Driver's Challenge

Five two man teams competed in our Central Otago Waterways last November. Excellent weather and attendees.

Sheriff's Session

Mark Donald read out his encyclopedia of fines, and \$74 was raised for a local Cromwell cause.

Election of Office Bearers

Read out nominations for advertised positions and vote if required. All positions are up for election/re-election including those partway through a term.

President	David O'Sullivan Reelected unopposed
Vice President	Hemi Cordell Reelected unopposed
Treasurer	Phil Greeks Reelected unopposed
Secretary	Mark Davidson Reelected unopposed

Tech Panel (three positions)

Mark Donald

Kris King

Reelected unopposed

Alan Humphries nominated and approved

Sheriff

Mark Donald

Reelected unopposed

Installation of the Executive

Present chains of office, lapel badges, and Past President's badge.

General Business

1. Constitution to remain the same
2. Consider moving our AGM forward to April, to be before the OSPFBA AGM. This is common to have an Organisation's AGM before their "parent" AGM to allow governance matters to be escalated. Perhaps a non-winter date is also advantageous. Discussion was to keep it the same at the moment, but to keep it under consideration.
3. Mark Donald moved that James Hazlett become a COFBSA LHM. Seconded by Ralph Fegan. Voted and approved unanimously

Next Meeting July 2027 in Wanaka

Meeting Closed at 1930

Action Points generated from the meeting

ACTION	PEOPLE	PROGRESS
James Hazlett's LHM to be ordered	Mark Davidson	