



# **Volunteer Ambulance Officers Association of Tasmania Incorporated**

A.B.N. - 49 452 275 349

[www.tasmanianambulancevolunteers.asn.au](http://www.tasmanianambulancevolunteers.asn.au)

*Our aim: To enhance pre-hospital patient care, by providing representation and support for the well being of Volunteer Ambulance Officers in Tasmania.*

## **MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING, held at The Lea, Hobart on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

### **PRESENT**

Wayne Doran (Chair), Dianne Coon (Secretary), Margaret Dennis, Mary Knowles, Shirley Squires, Cheryl Wilson, George Hudson, Helen Reynolds, Sandi-Lee Squires, Pam Fanning, Toni King, Lesley Blackburn, Anne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Tony Johnston, Monica Kursawe, Jack van Tatenhove, Bevan Blackmore, Graeme Little, Suzie Smith, Judi Duthoit, Dickie Power, Kaye Fox, Alison Smith, Ian Smith, Petrina Aitchison, Angelene Gibbons, Keitha Munro, Steven Hore, Mary Levett, Tegan Barnett, Leigh Higgins, Janice Higgins, Wendy Hains, Viv Holloway, Diana Jongbloed, Albert Jongbloed

### **APOLOGIES**

Teresa Nicholls, Lorraine Gardiner, Margaret Bicknell, Jack Spinks, Collette Harrold

### **NOTABLE EVENTS**

The Association was saddened to hear of the death of Robert Lee, long and dedicated volunteer at Deloraine and later founder of the Port Sorell First Response Unit. Robert was also a strong supporter of the VAOAT.

We also expressed our condolences to Deloraine Coordinator Angela Enright at the passing of her father.

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**That the minutes of the Special General Meeting and General Meeting, held 18 May 2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record.**

**Moved Toni King, Seconded Jack Van Tatenhove**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Report tabled covering the period 30/8/08 to 27/11/08

**That the Treasurer's quarterly report be accepted and accounts passed for payment.**

**Moved Margaret Dennis, Seconded Jack Van Tatenhove**

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**Ambulance 2020.** Dianne and Wayne reported that the State Budget handed down in June contained a small lump sum of about \$5 million, but nothing has been heard since from the Treasurer or Health Minister about introducing a system to provide fair, sufficient and predictable funding for the Ambulance Service into the future.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**In** – MyState Credit Union re merger with Perpetual Trustees  
Marsh P/L re insurance on Port Sorell First Response vehicle  
Senator Guy Barnett re International Volunteers Day  
Volunteering Tasmania re membership renewal and farewell to their CEO  
Colin Partridge re proposed new uniforms  
Betty Lee's thank you  
EMA – *2008 Safer Communities Awards* winners.

**Out** – Smartyhost re administration of website  
Minister Lara Giddings re attendance at VAO Gathering  
EMA and Hon Dick Adams re the official launch of Volunteer Procedures Manual  
Women Tasmania in support of the Avoca group's application for a Small Grant  
Robert Lee's family with condolences

## **VAOAT SUPPORT FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

### **It was resolved that:**

- The VAOAT is willing to provide support - in the form of ABN and letter of undertaking or support - to units who apply for grants and funds. However, the Committee or Executive will not manage the funds, acquittal or the conduct of the project the grant is requested for, and all responsibilities lie with the unit requesting the grant.
- Where VAOAT does support a grant application the individual unit must keep the Secretary informed in writing of the progress of the project, and of the timely acquittal of the grant.
- Any unit applying for VAOAT support should have at least 80% of their unit VAO's as current, paid up members of the VAOAT.
- A written request for support should be sent to the Secretary in time to be discussed at the quarterly Committee meeting. 'Last minute' requests, especially those requiring significant information to be supplied by VAOAT office bearers in a short time frame, are unlikely to be supported.
- Where a substantial grant or undertaking is being sought the Committee will require the applying unit to attend in person to present the proposal.

- In the event of several units requesting support for applications under the same program the Committee will rank the applications in priority order, using the VAOAT aim as guidance.

## **REPORTS**

### **AEMVF**

For family reasons Dianne missed the May and August AEMVF meetings, but recently attended the November meeting.

- The Australian Safer Communities Awards have had disappointingly few applications from volunteers, and they are keen to encourage more in the next round. They are 'interested in the product, not the package' and volunteer groups are invited to contact Kate Fitzgerald or Christine Jenkinson at EMA if they would like assistance in completing the application.
- The next Volunteer Summit will take place after the 2010 election. Dianne is on the Steering Committee.
- AEMVF has commissioned a volunteer-specific leadership course, with the pilot to be run at the Mt Macedon college from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009. The candidates should be 'leader aspirants' or people who have recently undertaken leadership responsibilities. Assuming this pilot course is successful the plan is to gain recurrent funding to run the course annually. Ambulance nationwide were allocated two places, which have been offered to volunteers from WA and SA, with a Tasmanian volunteer as reserve.
- The Australian Disasters Conference was scheduled for 10 to 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009 in Canberra. Dianne was offered a free of charge registration, with TAS and VAOAT providing support for airfares and accommodation. Due to the Queensland floods and the Victorian fire disaster the conference was postponed to a date later in the year.
- For the same reason, the AEMVF meeting scheduled for 4 March has been rescheduled until a later date.

### **Equipment Review Committee**

Meeting held at Launceston HQ. 14 October 2008

- Crash barrier was tested at 60 kgs for support vehicles and passed the test. Further testing to be completed.
- New kits rollout waiting on feed back from southern region.
- ERC recommends to SOG that water spray bottles and cling wrap be provided in all ambulances for treatment of burns.
- There is some evidence to suggest that the new femoral and leg traction splint may compromise circulation of femoral artery. It is suggested that all splints are standardized in all vehicles.
- The update on restraint devices to be purchased by the regions.

- The volunteer vehicle inventory is being worked on and should be completed by Christmas.
- BP cuffs in primary response kits. There is no progress on this matter.

#### **NW Area Rep**

- **Sheffield:** At present we have 5 new volunteers going through their log book, and three new volunteers who have successfully completed their log book and started undertaking regular shifts, we currently now have twenty one active volunteers, so our roster coverage is good. Our BSOs Greg and Joe are doing a great job as always. We have our Christmas dinner coming up on the 6th December; together with the SES. We are having it at the station in the garage, we currently have 58 attending and are having it catered for, should be a great night for all.
- **Deloraine:** Angela Enright's father past away, not sure just when but it was only just recently (No news).
- **Port Sorell / First Response: No news**
- **Wynyard:** No News
- **Waratah:** No News
- **Smithton:** Smithton have three new Vollies, all three are in waiting for their essential skills workshop, this brings their numbers up to 12. Days are still hard to cover because everybody works!!! Smithton had a visit from Dr Peter Aviar and the student doctors from across the state; they had six volunteers help out with the huge mock up. It was held in Smithton over four days with lots of work shops and a mock done at die end of the last day. They all learnt a lot about working together. Smithton will have a new BSO appointed soon, they will tell more when they find out. Alan Weller is counting his blocks down till his retirement, in February, Jodie said that will be sad day for all. Hamish Wallace has been with the vollies in Smithton, but had his last day with them this week, Jodie said they have all greatly enjoyed his company and hope that he comes back soon. Smithton had their Christmas dinner on the 15<sup>th</sup> November at the Stanley pub, 26 attended and all had a great time.