**EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION INC.**

**GENERAL MEETING 20TH JUNE, 2016**

Held via Teleconference

Meeting declared opened at 19.03 hours

**PRESENT:** President Michael Quinlan, Executive Officer Merv Austic, Vicki Quinlan, Lynette Varris, John Twaddle, Doug Bell, John Iffla, George Woolston

**APOLOGIES:** Nil

**MINUTES:**

***MOTION***

***Moved: J. Twaddle Seconded: L. Varris***

***That Minutes of May 16th meeting as distributed be accepted as & true & correct record.***

***Motion: Carried***

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

**NEW WEBSITE:** Doug & Vicki have met with proposed new developer. He has been given a full brief of our requirements. Seems very efficient and proficient. Was also able to offer good ideas as to how better manage our emails etc. Are very confident in him. He just needs to finish of Projects he already has on the go and then he will get on to ours. He is confident that we will be able to launch at Conference.

**PATHWAYS:** Pathways Advisory group met last weekend. There are issues with the Pathways and eAcademy across the board. Mental Health 1st Aid Course has been implemented but at the moment DFES unsure of where it should sit in Pathways. There will be no Brigade Profile attached to it. Need to look into what is involved in the Course. Feeling was it should be a training course for all Volunteers to do. Raise at July meeting with Pathways Rep. George mentioned they have done it through the EP DFES Office and felt it was very worthwhile.

Doug felt we are getting our point across with regards to RCR, just need to wait and see what DFES come up with. The 3 components under RCR (Collar etc.) can now be done in any order, but 1 volunteer attending an Incident must have all 3 components!

Clarify with Pathways retraining requirements on these.

**SWORD:** SWORD VFES have a very progressive leadership team. With them we are currently working on a Document to take to the DFES Commissioner in early July, with regards to where they are at and where they want to be. We are receiving regular enquiries from city people wishing to volunteer so hopefully they are being directed towards SWORD VFES.

There are more groups being transferred across under SWORD.

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

SWORD VFES has been main focus recently and on Thursday will be attending release of Ferguson Report in Harvey.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:**

As distributed.

1. Currently working under contract to A/C Swift to sort out key areas of issues with VFES’s. Taking a lot longer than first thought. The system is a total mess.
2. Need to look at people on the current Awards Committee. The Associations where only offered 1 position on the Committee and it was decided at a CoVESA meeting that Jodie, VFRSA AO, would be the Rep. But in light of the number of AFSM’s awarded to Paid Staff and FRS members we may need to request other Reps on the Committee. Also need to push our Services to ensure they are nominating persons for the award. Need to raise with Commissioner this issue and push that the Integrity of the Medals need to be bought back in.

J. Twaddle mentioned that at the recent Firefighting Awards Judging the UFU Rep would not vote for any of the Volunteer Awards and stated that she would be complaining to the Commissioner on how the judging is done.

3. Will be visiting Services in the South & Wheatbelt. Am hoping to have visited everyone by end August. Vicki asked that Bruce Rock be a priority as they have had another fatal RCR this week.

4. Issues with Pathways and eAcademy. All staff contracted for this project have been resigned. Volunteers are having issues with getting in to the eAcademy.

It has been suggested that not all Training records have come across to eAcademy yet. Which is why volunteers are having trouble registering for courses.

Referring to email sent on June 13th we need to have documented cases of issues that are occurring. We can then go to DFES to get sorted, but we cannot just go in saying he said she said!

J. Twaddle sent through an email from his DO suggesting a Course registration by paper method!

5. Still waiting for new Mukinbudin VFES to be signed off on. No idea as to what the holdup is, Regional Super has signed off on. A/C Swift is back now so will question him.

Bidgydanga application is on Commissioners desk. Cervantes have been signed off on.

J. Iffla requested that Merv put in his Report the need for DFES to have someone take the VFES Management.

Ultimately the Report Merv is doing should bring all VFES’s into the main stream.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

Merv asked when we had to close of books for the year, he had heard it was the 20th.

We have not been notified of this so as far as we know it is the 30th June.

Majority of our Grant will be spent.

***MOTION***

***Moved: V. Quinlan Seconded: J. Twaddle***

***That Financial Report as distributed be accepted.***

***Motion: Carried***

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FUTURE FLEET:** J. Twaddle advised that the proposed meeting for this has been cancelled again.

**FATIGUE MANAGEMENT & DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY:** These are currently being revised, again recent meetings have been cancelled.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**CONFERENCE:** Need feedback for the 2 sessions that have been amalgamated into 1. It has also been suggested that we will more than likely not get Greg Mair to present to us. John Tillman was suggested in his place.

**CONFERENCE DINNER:** Use the same venue as previous years. Invite more high profile DFES personnel. Due to the VMR & SES Awards it is hard to get them to attend our dinner.

**CONSTITUTION:** Department of Commerce have introduced 5 new clauses that need to be put into all Constitutions. May be a good chance to review ours.

**VFES RULES:** These have been amended and are now up on the DFES Website. Merv to take a hard copy on his visits.

**OTHER:** George advised that the East Pilbara Shire are talking with regards to the ESM forming a Bush Fire Brigade in Newman. George has suggested to them a VFES would be better suited.

Karratha Superintendent is also keen to start a Training Advisory Committee for the District.

John Twaddle requested the Waroona VFES would like to purchase the old Fire Service Flag. Committee agreed they could have it.

There being no further business President thanked everyone and declared meeting closed at 20.35 hours