

Biennial Conference 2015
BOB GERAGHTY HOUSE
312 South Road, Richmond SA 5033

Minutes – Friday 9th October 2015

Day 2 Session 1: 9:05am - 10:45am

ATTENDANCE: Brendan Raets, Ron Paulus, Chris Paproth, Graham Hearnden, Russell Schutz, Ronnie Leighton, Pascal Labhart, Jason Harrison, Rodney Mills, Wayne Weekes, Andrew Nagel, Michael Heffernan, Daniel Ramm, Bruce Chambers, Anthony Borg, Darren Brenton, John Adley, Bob Donnelly

Moved: B Chambers Seconded: D Brenton **CARRIED**

APOLOGIES: Jim Morrison, Scott Pryor, Barry Grimes, Keith Smith, Carl Muegge, Jarryd Sweeney, Geoff Birrell, Doug Buchanan, Corey Mutton, Glen Dighton, Dave Meir, Allen Hicks.

Moved: B Chambers Seconded: D Brenton **CARRIED**

OBSERVERS: Jess Rogers, Peter Weber, Gordon Penhall, Simon Pisoni, Bill Mitropoulos, rin Hennessy, Ben Jewell, Paul Scudds, Steve Rayson,

MINUTES OF DAY ONE:

No comments on the minutes

Moved: P Scudds Seconded: B Chambers **CARRIED**

OFFICERS REPORT:

Bill Mitropoulos:

Bill thanked everyone for their support during the Election and gave brief work history report. He then stated his areas of responsibility are Steel, Transport, Vehicle Industries, Apprentices, Federal, State and Local Government.

He briefly discussed each area:

Government – a change in policy regarding forced redundancies.

Rail – there has been a decline in work.

Steel – price of iron ore has dropped significantly OneSteel is seeking to find \$100 Million in savings by restructure of operations.

Vehicle – spoke about transition centre at Holden, Holden workers receive 5 weeks for each year of their service as a redundancy package.

Moved: A Borg Seconded: D Brenton **CARRIED**

J Harrison took the chair

Moved: A Borg Seconded: B Chambers **CARRIED**

Suspended: 9:30AM

Moved: A Borg Seconded: B Chambers **CARRIED**

Resumed: 10:00AM

Moved: R Mills Seconded: B Chambers **CARRIED**

LEISCHKE & WEATHERILL PRESENTATION: Presented by Michael Ats

Spoke about the changes to the Return to Work Legislation (WorkCover). Delegates gave positive feedback to Michael regarding their services and the way they help members to understand the legal aspects of issues of concern to them.

Moved: M Heffernan Seconded: R Schutz **CARRIED**

10:45AM MORNING TEA

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Day 2 Session 2: 11:00am - 12:30am

SECRETARY OF THE SA ALP REGGIE MARTIN:

Spoke on history of the ALP and Trade Union affiliation, then spoke on the difference between the ALP and the Liberal Party.

Moved: J Harrison Seconded: G Hearnden **CARRIED**

ALP AFFILIATION:

Suspended:	11:34AM			
Moved:	J Harrison	Seconded:	A Nagel	CARRIED
Resumed:	12:08AM			
Moved:	A Nagel	Seconded:	B Chambers	CARRIED

Graham Hearnden:

Moved that this Biennial Conference Supports the SA CEPU Electrical & Plumbing Division remaining affiliated with the ALP and encouraged Branch Conference Delegates to vote in the best interest of branch members.

Chris Paproth: Voted against. All others voted in favour **CARRIED**

Pascal Labhart:

Moved that ALP affiliation remains an agenda item for the next Branch Conference.

Seconded: Michael Heffernan **CARRIED**

CBUS PRESENTATION: Presented by Allen Harris

Gave a history of CBUS, and spoke about services to members.

Moved: G Hearnden Seconded: B Chambers **CARRIED**

12:30PM LUNCH BREAK

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Day 2 Session 3: 1:30pm - 5:00pm

MIC PRESENTATION: Presented by Matt Cole and Bob Clifford

MIC team gave startling statistics into suicide rates in the construction industry, how Mates In Construction was founded and an insight into the fantastic work that they do.

Delegates then undertook and completed MiC General Awareness Training (GAT).

Moved: J Harrison

Seconded: D Ramm

CARRIED

TOM KOUTSANTONIS MP: State Member for West Torrens

Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy, Minister for Small Business

Tom spoke about SA Government tax cuts designed to try and boost the state economy, Tom said that there is a fight coming very soon over penalty rates and the Liberal party push to remove them. Tom outlined some of the projects the state ALP are working on i.e. Northern Connector (worth around \$1b), the Gawler train line electrification project (in the forward estimates for 2017) and the upgrading of Housing Trust properties (worth around \$65m).

Concerns from delegates were raised with Tom regarding the CHaFTA, skills and labor market testing.

Moved: M Heffernan

Seconded: P Labhart

CARRIED

MICHAEL WRIGHT: National Legal Officer

Michael gave a brief history into the 3 divisions of the union and the process by which divisions may merge into a CEPU branch, this is up to each state, but it will predominately be the smaller states that may wish to amalgamate.

Michael gave an update with what is happening in the Royal Commission, the unions that have been called before the commission are the TWU, AWU, HSU, CFMEU and the CEPU. Michael reported that no allegations have been against the CEPU.

Michael gave an update into the unofficial CEPU SA facebook page and what the administrators of this page have been asked to do to avoid legal action being taken against them.

Moved: A Borg

Seconded: G Hearnden

CARRIED

URANIUM MINING:

John Adley said that he has been unable to get the information requested of him yesterday from the National Office, it was mentioned that the National Policy was driven by the Queensland Branch. John will continue to try and source this information and will circulate once it is to hand.

Moved: C Paproth

Seconded: R Schutz

CARRIED

STRATEGIC PLAN, MEMBERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE:

John Adley said that because of the recent election that a new strategic plan has not been developed yet, but it would be done early next year.

A resolution is to be drafted outlining concerns around the CHaFTA , this will be then raised at the ALP Conference later this year.

Ideas were sought from delegates reading what the union can do get 'Boots on the ground', some ideas were;

- Letterbox drops
- Door knocking in marginal seats
- Speaking to the Queensland branch about their strategies i.e. 'Not 4 Sale' campaign
- Getting more younger members involved in the union i.e. Apprentices
- Talk around staggered fees for Apprentices

Moved: C Paproth

Seconded: B Chambers

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS:

C Paproth moved the following resolution:

The Divisional Branch Conference delegates thank the entire office staff for their support and assistance in setting up and the smooth running of the 2015 Divisional Branch Conference

G Hearnden Seconded

CARRIED

C Paproth moved the following resolution

That in future this conference be referred to as the Divisional Branch Conference

J Harrison moved that the word Biennial is added before Divisional in the resolution, **W Weekes** seconded this and **C Paproth** accepted the change, the new resolution reads as follows:

That in future this conference be referred to as the Biennial Divisional Branch Conference

R Schutz: Seconded

CARRIED

C Paproth moved the following resolution

The Divisional Branch Conference minutes will be emailed to Biennial Conference delegates in the next 2 weeks

G Hearnden Seconded

CARRIED

President R Donnelly thanked delegates and special guests for their attendance, wished everyone a safe trip home.

R Donnelly reminded State Councillors of the meeting next Tuesday night 13th October and closed the Biennial Conference at 4:40pm.

Confirmed by Robert Donnelly

Date.....