



RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

SOUTH EASTERN DISTRICT LIMITED

COUNCIL MEETING 2 MAY 2024

MINUTES

- 047/2024 CALL TO ORDER: 18:05h.
- 048/2024 HOUSEKEEPING:  
No change to housekeeping.
- 049/2024 SILENCE TRIBUTE, VALE & ODE:  
The Vale was read by Greenbank's Delegate and the Ode was delivered by Kerry Gallagher AM.
- 050/2024 WELCOME:  
District President welcomed all delegates and visitors both in the room and also on-line.
- 051/2024 PRESENT:
- a. Executive: Kerry Gallagher AM, District President; Judy Alterator, Company Secretary; Dean Malseed, Treasurer; Bob Ikin Vice President
- b. Councillors:
- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| BEAUDESERT              | Jon Forbe-Smith               |
| BEERWAH & DISTRICT      | Neville Layt                  |
| BULIMBA DISTRICT        | Brian Daley OAM               |
| CITY NEW FARM           | Susan Kellett                 |
| DEFENCE SERVICE NURSES  | Ann Bramwell (on-line)        |
| FOREST LAKE & DISTRICTS | Dan Baldwin                   |
| GREENBANK               | George Royes                  |
| HOLLAND PARK-MT GRAVATT | Michael Weibler               |
| JIMBOOMBA               | Bill Malkin AM                |
| KILCOY                  | Shane Williams (on-line)      |
| KOORALBYN VALLEY        | Reid Stevens (on-line)        |
| LOGAN VILLAGE           | Garry Alterator OAM (on-line) |
| MACLEAY ISLAND          | Len Waldorff (on-line)        |
| MANLY LOTA              | Bob Ikin                      |
| REDLANDS                | Rob Wilson                    |
| SALISBURY               | Tony Stevenson OAM            |
| SPRINGWOOD TRI SERVICE  | Jamie McLellan                |
| SUNNYBANK               | Harry Claassen OAM            |
| TRAMWAYS                | Grahame Fullerton             |
| YERONG DUTTON PARK      | Gavan White (on-line)         |

CONFIDENTIAL

052/2024 VISITORS: Liz Layt, Beerwah & District; Andy Dennis, Bulimba District; Adrian Pate, City New Farm; Stewart Rae, Greenbank; Alex Garlin OAM, Salisbury; Harry Claassen, Sunnybank; Lily Zhu, Toowong (on-line)

053/2024 APOLOGIES: Doug Egan, Senior Vice President & Delegate, Greater Springfield; Eve Radford, Vice President; Richard Smith, Bayside South; Dennis Collyer, Coorparoo; Peggy Broomhall, Defence Servicewomen's; Brian Machin, Glasshouse Country; Graeme Mickelberg, Kenilworth; Jack Goener, National Servicemen's; Ian Gray, Redlands; Gary Sargent, Springwood Tri-Services; Tim Gordon, Stephens; Hugh Polson, Sunnybank

**MOTION**

**"That the Apologies be accepted"**

**Moved: Judy Alterator**

**Seconded: Salisbury**

**CARRIED**

054/2024 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS:

**Standing conflict of Interest Declarations – Positions held by Board members:**

Kerry Gallagher AM – AATTV Association and Chair of ANZAC Day Committee

Judy Alterator – President, Logan Village RSL Sub-Branch Inc

Doug Egan – President, Greater Springfield RSL Sub Branch Inc and Director, HORISUNS Company Ltd

Matthew Rowe – Director, Yeronga Services & Community Club; Committee Member, Yeronga Dutton Park RSL Sub Branch; General Manager, Veteran Wellbeing Coordination Centre and President, Navy League of Australia

Bob Ikin – Delegate, Manly Lota Sub Branch Inc

Eve Radford – Treasurer, Defence Servicewomen's RSL Sub Branch; President of Ex-Servicewomen's Association and Advocate, Geebung Sub Branch

There were no amendments to the current list.

055/2024 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

**MOTION**

**"That the minutes of the previous meeting's date be taken as read."**

**Moved: Judy Alterator**

**Seconded: Forest Lake & Districts**

**CARRIED**

056/2024 AMENDMENTS:

There were no amendments to the previous minutes.

057/2024 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

058/2024 ACTION ITEMS:

**043/2023/b/iii:** Update from SADFO: 7 Brigade have had a significant role in the elections in the Solomon Islands and SADFO has extended his apologies again, but he has committed to speaking to us later this year.

**069/2023/6:** District President has been confidently assured by the State President that the process for advocacy is still under active discussion and that there is a state representative that attends federal or national meetings. Advocacy is being developed between RSL Qld and RSL Australia.

**028/2024:** Company Secretary gave an update on the Government entitlement chart to which the State President referred in his presentation on Thursday 7 March. This chart

was not circulated as stated in the Action Items as it was a comparison by state. A revised chart is currently being produced for release which will specify the Qld only entitlements for the various DVA cards. Forest Lake & Districts' Delegate requested a copy of the State President's presentation (this was circulated to Sub Branches at 6.00pm on Monday 18 March, entitled 'SED Council Meeting Minutes, Action Items and State President's Presentation – Thursday 7 March).

**035/2024:** Further to circulating an email to Sub Branches on 9 April, District Secretary gave an update that Replacement Delegates are able to attend State Congress on 22 June along with Delegates. The Delegates' attendance costs would be covered by RSL Qld, but the Sub Branch would have to cover the costs of their Replacement Delegate. (These costs can be found on the RSL Qld website/What's On/State Congress/Registration Types and Inclusions/Sub Branch Replacement Delegate).

**044/2024/5/b:** District Secretary reported that she had investigated into why Redlands' ex-Service Women's Auxiliary Members are not registered in the MMS System and this is now in the capable hands of Desley Lingard, the President of this group.

**Kilcoy's Motion:** District President reported that this issue is now referred to as harmonisation and is an ongoing process that's been taken up by the National President, with the Minister of the Department. They will keep us informed of how that harmonisation progresses but, as it is a fairly difficult task, it is anticipated to take some time.

**Stephens' Motion:** District President reported that it is not workable for RSL Qld to provide directors liability insurance across the state, because of the disparity between Sub Branches, excessive costs, legal risk and the complexity of insurance. Company Secretary reported that Springwood Tri Service's proposed motion for RSL Qld to negotiate with Berkley Insurance Australia regarding their Association Liability Insurance would be discussed under point 19 later in the meeting. It was confirmed that Springwood Tri Service has already purchased this insurance and Sub Branches should have received a copy of the letter that Stephens received from RSL Qld (circulated on 18 March). There's a possibility that District could negotiate insurance for its 34 Sub Branches with Berkley or a similar company.

**Redlands' Motion:** The first meeting of the young veterans committee, under the initial chair of the Senior Vice President, Doug Egan has taken place and there will be progress reports at future Council meetings.

District President stated that motions at the end of the Action Items should be acknowledged.

059/2024 CORRESPONDENCE: – Inwards and Outwards

Company Secretary stated that if there is any item included on either correspondence sheet that has not been received, please request a re-send from the District Secretary. She pointed out the following on the outwards correspondence sheet:

- Reminder for the Delegate and President to register for the SED AGM (deadline was 26 April) and the Delegate and Replacement Delegate (if both attending) to register for the RSL Qld State Congress (deadline 17 May). To date we only have 5 Sub Branches ready to be registered for RSL Qld State Congress. Please action where relevant as soon as possible.
- Reminders of deadlines in any correspondence circulated throughout the week or regarding training, etc are included in the DS updates which are circulated on Thursdays. These are a good reference point for current issues.
- For those Sub Branches in the Brisbane City Council area, the acquittal deadline for your Anzac Day funding is Friday 7 June.

CONFIDENTIAL

- Salisbury's Delegate queried the 'Place your ANZAC Day Floral Orders Now!' item on the correspondence in and out, dated 18 March and this was clarified as wreath orders.

**MOTION**

**"That the Inwards be received, and the Outwards be adopted."**

**Moved: Judy Alterator**

**Seconded: Greenbank**

**CARRIED**

060/2024

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE: Nil

061/2024

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. **Training:** Sub Branch support has been requested for the training organised by District and State, such as governance, etc to make them worthwhile and to keep them going. Sub Branch executives should consider it carefully for their committee members as the trainers are relatively expensive. A discussion followed where it was pointed out that giving up two days for training is hard and, in the case of governance training, more than a day is information overload, especially for those just starting new executive roles. Those members that work also find it hard to attend training during the week. Company Secretary reported that the imminent governance training will be the last in the current format. From 1 July the new format will be carried out online (60% online webinars; 40% interpersonal) and qualification will be given on completion of the full course. It was noted that this approach would be more flexible and should resolve the majority of the current issues.
2. **ANZAC Day:** District President reported that, from some of the informal calls received from Sub Branches, ANZAC Day was considered to be successful. From SED's point of view, there were larger numbers of marchers and spectators at the Anzac Day Parade Brisbane this year and the weather was gentle compared to the last two years. It seemed to go well but there are always a couple of aspects that can be tidied up a bit. He was quietly satisfied with the nature and the respect that was shown for ANZAC Day.
3. **RSL SED Veteran Wellbeing Coordination Centre, Greenslopes:** District President's request to RSL Qld to promote the Veteran Wellbeing Coordination Centre at Greenslopes has been effectively delivered. The video is still being edited but the amount of time and the effort that was put into it was very impressive and the initial result is very professional. As soon as it has been finalised, it will be circulated to Sub Branches who should be encouraged to see it even if there are some personal reservations about it.

**MOTION**

**"That the President's report be accepted as presented."**

**Moved: Kerry Gallagher AM**

**Seconded: Beerwah & District**

**CARRIED**

062/2024

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. The 2023 audit report is being wrapped up, the Council signed off April's financials and the AGM packs have been circulated. Further discussion will take place at the AGM on Saturday 18 May.
2. Our six month term deposit has matured and is rolling over into another six month term deposit.
3. There are a few capital works coming up with renovations in the forecourt and painting the upstairs of SED. It is hoped that grants will cover some of it, but SED will cover the full cost of the forecourt.

- 2023 Charitable Objects Fund (COF) is being wrapped up with the assistance of RSL Qld. Sub Branches were urged to keep a lookout for emails and Treasurer thanked them for their prompt assistance with finalising acquittals. SED pays the money out first and then has to wait for RSL Qld to reimburse them, so prompt action is appreciated.
- At the end of March, roughly 50% of 2024 COF has been spent with the majority of those funds being paid to Sub Branches for ANZAC Day events.

**MOTION**

**“That the financial statements be received, and current accounts be passed for payment.”**

**Moved: Dean Malseed**

**Seconded: Redlands**

**CARRIED**

SED SOLVENCY STATEMENT

“That in the Management Committee’s opinion, the Returned and Services League of Australia South Eastern District Ltd is solvent and there are reasonable grounds to believe that it will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable”.

**MOTION**

**“That the Solvency Statement has been accepted.”**

**Moved: Dean Malseed**

**Seconded: Bulimba District**

**CARRIED**

063/2024

BUSINESS ARISING FROM TREASURER’S REPORT: Nil

064/2024

REPORTS:

**Sub Branch Reports:** are up on the SED website as usual: Bayside South, Beerwah and District, Greenbank and Sunnybank.

**Sub Branch Newsletters:** Beaudesert and National Servicemen’s Sub Branch Newsletters are available on the SED website.

**Membership Report:** Nothing to report.

**Wellbeing Report:** Bob Ikin as tabled, with the following updates:

- Moreton District have a shortage of volunteer advocates; and their shortage of mentors is their biggest issue.
- SED will be conducting a grant writing session with Debby Scott-Ranson from RSL Qld and also providing some COF training at Manly Lota Sub Branch.
- From the SED Advocacy Workshop program on the reverse of his report, there are some high-quality speakers due to attend. They will provide up-to-date, excellent information for current Advocates, those who aspire to be Advocates and to Sub Branch members so they know a little bit more about advocacy and what's going on.

District President commended the grant writing session. It is in the interest of all Sub Branches to keep a close eye on the grants that are available and RSL Qld has been very successful in obtaining grants and providing helpful advice and assistance. He also expressed his gratitude for an on-location Advocate at SED on one day a month and will continue to push for an upgrade to one day a week. Bob Ikin to confirm the process of registering a Level 1 Advocate into the ADTP system without a mentor to Greenback’s Delegate for Stewart Rae.

**MOTION**

**“That the reports be accepted as presented.”**

**Moved: Judy Alterator**

**Seconded: Salisbury**

**CARRIED**

065/2024

NOTICE OF MOTION: Nil

1. **Springwood Tri Service Motion: ‘That RSL Qld, with its corporate power, negotiate with Berkley Insurance Australia or another similar supplier, to be a preferred insurance agency for Sub Branches seeking insurance protection for individual office bearers (directors and officers).’**

Company Secretary recommended that it was worth investigating whether Berkley Insurance Australia or another similar supplier could cover all Sub Branches’ executives at a negotiated cost. Springwood Tri Service’s Delegate added that the cost of the insurance, having shopped around for the best, was just over \$1500.

District President to raise it as a matter of principle for discussion with the State Council of District Presidents (SCDP). District Secretary to investigate how many Sub Branches already have this insurance in place so that we have an understanding, if RSL Qld is supportive, of the number of Sub Branches which need it.

Manly Lota’s Delegate suggested that there could be a whole range of services for which we could negotiate a better deal, for example, traffic management.

2. **SED Motion: ‘That DVA cards be included in the supporting documentation when Membership Officers accept new currently serving and/or ex-service members’. (I hereby confirm the Proof of Membership eligibility has been sighted and the applicant qualifies in accordance with RSL Queensland rules.)**

District President explained that this motion was no longer necessary and referred all present to the ‘Memberships Applications’ article in the Branch Bulletin which would have landed in the Sub Branch President and Secretary’s inbox today. DVA cards, along with other documents, have now been authorised as an acceptable document for membership purposes.

3. If Motion 2 is accepted, then: **‘That a member applying for membership without documentation, is temporarily approved on sighting their DVA card, pending acceptance of supporting documentation, as required.’**

This motion was also no longer necessary.

066/2024

HONOURS AND AWARDS: Nil

067/2024

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. District Secretary updated on the following:
  - a. A bundle of RSL Queensland pens were distributed to all Delegates in the room for handing out to volunteers during National Volunteers’ week, commencing 20 May. Information can be found in the DS update and Branch Bulletin. A template is available on SKIP if you would like to create a personalised certificate for each of your volunteers to go with a pen as a way of saying thank you.
  - b. Some Sub Branches are still to collect a district map and new ‘Objects of the League’ posters are now available for collection along with leaflets on RSL Qld Advocacy, Employment and Homelessness programmes.
  - c. For any other items, please refer to the DS update which was circulated this afternoon.

CONFIDENTIAL

2. City New Farm's Delegate requested clarification regarding members who try to renew just outside the renewal period. A discussion followed and it was decided that the District Secretary could take up the slack for any individual in this situation and liaise with the Membership team. District President to raise it at the SCDP next week just to see if there's some reason why members disappear off the system if they haven't renewed.
3. Redlands' Delegate reported that they handed out flags to some of their 10,000 spectators on ANZAC Day and their Federal member also delivered a supply. District President added that as our courageous members who die in the Defence Service have an Australia flag draped over their coffin when they return home, this helps the population understand the importance of the Australian flag.
4. Springwood Tri Service's Delegate reported that, following the debacle with Logan City Council, the issue of traffic management has been taken up by their State and Federal member. District President added that he hoped that they would have support from the Deputy Prime Minister and the Treasurer. He also acknowledged the service given by Dave Simmons to RSL Qld, the District and the Sub Branch, including his time in the presidency and asked the Delegate to pass a message of thanks onto Dave.
5. Tramways' Delegate reported that their Vice President's 11-year-old grandson has played the Last Post at ANZAC Day for three years running.
6. Sunnybank's Delegate reported that his son works for the Traffic Management team at Ipswich Council and he is willing to provide the traffic management documentation (with any future amendments) to all Sub Branches, free of charge. This would be a saving of about \$600.00 that a professional would charge for a similar service.
7. Greenbank's President enquired about sewn Australian and RSL Qld flags and suggested that RSL Qld could negotiate with one supplier to provide the RSL, Australian and maybe the Queensland flag for the entire state. District President to investigate whether the Minister for Veterans Affairs would provide the sewn flags. Some Sub Branches also use Fox Flags.
8. Forest Lake & Districts' Delegate reported that the younger veterans in their Sub Branch requested a Dawn Service this year and, to their surprise 800 people attended. School Captains from local secondary schools have been the Master of Ceremony for the last two years. District President added that these events should be held at a time that allows people to come into town.
9. Toowong's Visitor reported that their Anzac Day was possibly their most successful to date. This was due to the increased number of school children attending, including a local high school choir who sang hymns, which was fantastic as their band had to cancel due to COVID. There was fantastic feedback from the community and it was felt that the children's involvement made a great difference.
10. Greenbank's Delegate reported that they have come up with a proposal for next year for their Afghani and Iraqi veterans to march together under their own banner on ANZAC Day, rather than with the Sub Branch. That would give them their own Identity and from there it is hoped that the word will spread amongst the younger generation to become members.

068/2024

SUB BRANCH PRESENTATIONS:

Jimboomba and Kooralbyn's presentations were delivered at the March Council meeting. (District Secretary apologises for the error in the agenda). Logan Village's

presentation will be deferred to the next meeting (along with the next two Sub Branches on the list).

- 069/2024      NEXT MEETING:  
The next meeting will be on Thursday 6 June, commencing at 18:00hrs, keeping in mind that the AGM will be on Saturday 18 May. District President will be absent on 6 June and one of the Vice Presidents will take the chair in his absence.
- 070/2024      CLOSURE:  
District President thanked all those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 19:09h.

**Kerry Gallagher AM**  
District President

**Judy Alterator**  
Company Secretary

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