**PROVISIONAL MINUTES OF THE**

**MHSA FEDERAL COUNCIL MEETING – MON 5 DECEMBER 2022**

**Location:** Zoom Pro Conference facilitated by the Federal President located in Canberra.

**Present: *Nigel Webster (Chairperson), Justin Chadwick, Ian Curtis, Steve Daniher, Neil Dearberg, Terry Dinneen, Katrina Kittel, Leigh Ryan, Ian Stagoll, Russell Paten, Russell Linwood (Secretary).***

**Apologies**: ***Elizabeth Hobbs, Duncan McConnell.***

**Absent:**Nil

**Welcome by Chair:** ***Nigel Webster*** opened the meeting immediately following the AGM.

**Previous Minutes:**

That the minutes of the previous Federal Council (FC) meeting held on 5 Sep 22 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: ***Justin Chadwick***  Seconded: ***Ian Curtis***

Motion CARRIED.

After they have been approved at the next FC meeting on 20 February 2023, these minutes will be published on the MHSA website (as per FC Minute 9 of 25 Mar 19).

**Business Arising:**

None. However, several items were addressed at this point of the meeting:

1. **MHSA Logo.** ***Nigel Webster*** gave a general update on progress of the possible revamping of the MHSA logo.
2. **Military Spectacular**. ***Neil Dearberg*** was invited to speak to alternative plans in face of the need to cancel the 2022 Military Spectacular into which so much work had gone on the part of QLD Division. Operational and training commitment by the Army in 2022 and forecast again for 2023, coupled with a nation-wide reluctance to attend conferences at this time, were accepted as the reasons for the need to defer the Military Spectacular until 2024. This position was understood and accepted by the FC upon whose behalf the MHSA periodic conference (ie Military Spectacular) QLD Division is operating.

***Ian Stagoll*** queried how much of the federal grant towards it had already been expended. Details are in the Conference Financial Statement that would shortly be tended to ***Nigel Webster*** for distribution to the FC.

**Key Correspondence:**

*Out***: Nil**

*In***: Nil**

1. **Election of 2022 Federal Council office holders.** Nominations for FC office holders were called. ***Russell Linwood*** declined nominations for President and Vice-President, informing the meeting of his decision NOT to seek re-election as an office bearer for 2023, but would complete this FC meeting as a minute’s secretary and serve on as a Councillor as elected at the AGM.
2. Nominations for Office holders proceeded until the FC process was challenged by ***Leigh Ryan*** on the grounds that the 2022 process was inconsistent with the new Constitution. Significant debate ensured about the election of officer bearers (as opposed to Councillors), and whether that should occur in the AGM, or as per the FC meeting agenda.

It was noted that no one had queried this matter until ***Leigh Ryan*** raised it as a consideration. The following agreement was reached as an interim measure for 2023 given the disparate interpretations of the meaning and sequence logic of the constitution in this matter:

1. ***Nigel Webster*** to serve as President, having self-nominated, seconded by ***Russell Linwood*,** with no further nominations**.**
2. ***Russell Paten*** to serve as Vice- President, nominated by Nigel Webster, seconded by ***Russell Linwood,*** with no further nominations**.**
3. ***Justin Chadwick***, already Treasurer agreed to continue on in that role given there were no other nominations.
4. No nominations were received for Secretary.
5. All those present agreed to seek a temporary Secretary while the issue of office holder election process, and who could vote for Federal office holders, was resolved.
6. It was agreed that the appointments of Councillor made via election at the 2022 AGM outcomes would stand. A sub-group TBA, led by the President, would seek to resolve the issue soonest out of session and bring it to the next FC for resolution.
7. **2023 MHSA Business Plan**. Given the deadlock addressed in Item 1, discussion was limited on this topic. ***Russell Linwood*** advised the FC needed to review and update (if necessary) the current 2022 plan, otherwise there was no point having one. Nigel Webster supported this comment and encouraged all to review the plan and actively apply it, with formal adoption of it at next FC, even if that only involves a date change to the title. Katrina Kattel had proposed small but significant improvements in wording out of session (on the grounds that she might not make the actual meeting). As creation and maintenance of this plan has been carried out by the Secretary up to this point, it remains untasked as to who will coordinate those, and any further, proposals.

**General Business**

1. **Bank balance**. Justin Chadwick informed the FC that the current balance of the MHSA account is $14,333.45 to which is added a Term Deposit to the value of $22,763.93.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.44 pm.

**Next Federal Council meeting will be at 6:00 AEDST Monday 20 February 2023**

Minutes drafted by Minutes Secretary (***Russell Linwood***) on 7 Dec 22

Minute cleared provisionally by Meeting Chairperson (and President) on 09 January 2023