Notice of Meeting -  Tumbarumba District

Riverina Highlands Rural Fire Service Zone

Minutes Captains meeting Tumbarumba District Rural Fire Service on Monday 11th August 2008. Held in the Tumbarumba Bowling Club commencing at 6.00 pm.

1. Attendance

See sheet

2. Apologies:
Alan Kendal, Paul Blake, Adrian Cass, Dennis Prezgaj,

3. Reports by Group Captains:

Scott Anderson and John Jervois both reported a quiet period and mentioned the recent snow falls. They both agreed that the Tumbarumba volunteer members did not have any issues and appreciated the Senior Management Team meetings and the preparation of five year tanker replacement plans.

4. Zone Manager Report:

Reported that the meeting would be his last as Zone Manager and said that he felt Zone RFS was in a good position and it was a good time to move on.

The Maragle fire shed had been completed and plans were under way for the erection of double bay fire sheds at both Rosewood and Coolac over the coming weeks.

He advised that Jason Heffernan had been appointed as Acting Zone Manager for a five month period to February 2009 and Lindsay Lashbrook for the following five month period. He also mentioned the close cooperation and professionalism of Tumbarumba volunteers and the benefits of the SMT and Five year replacement plans.

He thanked all brigades for their support and advised that some light refreshments would be available after the meeting.
5. Report on Liaison meeting held Tuesday 5th August 2008 (G. Smith):

Ian Pratt responded on behalf of Graham Smith who was unavailable to attend the liaison meeting. Ian said that the meeting was positive and mentioned the close cooperation between the various Council staff and the local RFS. Points covered at the meeting included funding proposals performance reviews and the recent Captains forum held at Talbingo.

6. Revised Five Year Tanker replacement program:

The five year tanker replacement as presented was accepted on the motion of Scott Anderson and John Jervois.

7. Emergency Service building Tumbarumba:

Some discussion took place on the benefits to both SES and RFS if further extensions to the Training room and gravelling the apron and a roof for the outside training building could be approved. Ian Pratt said that the SES were prepared to part fund some of the extensions and sought RFS participation. Ian was asked to obtain quotes for the work.

**On the Motion of John Jervois/ Peter Lonergan it was resolved that**

“further investigations on the cost of the Emergency Services Building extensions and sundry works be obtained and support from Tumbarumba Council be sought”

8. Operations & Training Matters:

Basic Fire Fighter course planned for Tumbarumba district during October. John Jervois encouraged all brigades to establish a routine of regular tanker service runs and to record the activity on a white board kept within the station/shed.

He also spoke about the importance of knowing where water points are in brigade areas and to utilize members for staging areas and non fire fighting activities.

A draft summary of the 2009/10 funding estimate was provided for discussion.
9. Bush Fire Risk Plan Consultation Process:

Detailed report provided by RFS Peter Jones who made reference to new Risk Plan maps. Also gave an overview of the identification of assets including the grouping together of rural dwellings and plantations. He said the plan will identify the treatment of assets which have been assessed as being at a high or extreme risk to bushfire.

10. Occupational Health & safety matters:

No matters raised but discussion took place on the proposed State legislation covering the fatigue factor of Heavy Vehicle drivers. This matter had been previously been raised at a SMT meeting and a full report is expected from RFS HO.

11 Termination:

The meeting closed at 7.20 following a vote of thanks to the retiring Zone Manager

Tony Clee
Zone Manager