

**HSU BRANCH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE UNION'S HEAD OFFICE,
LEVEL 2, 109 PITT STREET, SYDNEY ON FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2013 AT 3.41
P.M.**

ATTENDANCE: G Hayes, G Partridge, S O'Riley, S Davies, P Iffland, J Holgate, S Joseph, G Reilly, C Charles, C Lee, J Chester, R Henderson, A Wilcock, P Reid, S Fraser, M Pike, A Lillicrap, L Snow, L Burns, D Neumann, D Turley, S Haynes and M Sterrey.

CHAIRPERSON: M Sterrey (President)

APOLOGIES: W Lloyd, L Twyford, L Martin and R Dunn.

Moved S O'Riley/J Chester that the apologies be accepted.

Motion put and carried.

VISITORS: A McDonald, W Boon, D Perry and S Champness.

Moved C Charles/S Joseph that the visitors as listed above be admitted to the meeting.

Motion put and carried.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Nil

MINUTES: Moved S Haynes/A Wilcock that the Branch Council minutes of 25th September 2013 and Branch Council teleconference minutes of 19th November 2013 be received and adopted.

Motion put and carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORTS:

The Secretary advised that it was one year three days since the election was won and in that time a lot had been done in that time. Everything that had been promised was done.

- Introduced the Member Service Division.
- We have increased our campaigning ability, when Albury Wodonga Health was a great success. We have saved about 146 positions that were to be contracted out. We are now out at the West of NSW at Peter Warren and Narromine and other places where they want to get rid of 17 FTE across the Greater Southern West. 70 cleaners and 17 admin officers they won't pay one BMO. That campaign was up and under way and is now two organisers. The Union has committed 2 Organisers Zelda Giblet and Glen Pead for the duration of that campaign. The Union will not let the Health get away with it; the real culprits are the doctors.
- In Terms of Charter of reform we have not yet moved out of Pitt Street yet. One level at 370 Pitt Street has been sold and other Level is underway. For the time being the

office will stay at Pitt Street and when the market improves then the matter will be looked at.

- In terms of staff we have a new Divisional Head for Public Health, David Perry.
- Adam Hall has been appointed to the position of Deputy Manager Public sector, more as an operational role.
- Jodie Cowdrey has been appointed as a Divisional Manager Member Services. The opening hours will be from 8 to 6pm and as members get used to it, we may open on Saturday's. Members still have the opportunity to come in the office or to ring.
- We have lost 23 members this year that passed away. We have introduced an Honour or memorial roll.
- We have campaigned at Royal North Shore for 45 positions to be contracted out.
- Prince of Wales, 17 Medical imaging restructures happening. Campaign being looked after by Graham.
- The call centre has contacted all the retired members and they have got back over 300 members to join.
- Aged Care Divisional Manager's position is still vacant. 3 people have been interviewed for this position.
- We are starting on work on RTO (Registered Training Officer) as the Council would be aware one of the visions of the Union is to conduct training as a RTO. This type of initiative will not only add enhanced income focus to the Union it will also provide a central training to members as part of their membership.

There is a range of training that can be undertaken that will value add from an industrial as well as professional point of view. At this time Andrew Lillicrap has met with a representative from TAFE. We are beginning the process of short and long term steps to engage this objective. A full report will be delivered to the Council once further details have been gained with respect to the Union's set up and development commitments.

Secretary acknowledged the Council, the Branch Committee of Management and the Organising, industrial, the Member Service Division, the Membership Department who have all done a fantastic job. Particularly the Finance Department, Andrew and his team, from an operational perspective and financial perspective, nobody would believe where we were 12 months ago and where we are today.

RESOLUTION

Moved M Pike/A Wilcock that the Secretary's report be received and noted.

Motion put and carried.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:

- The state of the Union is strong after 12 months. Twelve months ago we had minimal net assets of only \$192,000. In the last twelve months we have done a lot of things to straighten financial matters out as well as introduced new benefits for members including journey insurance, extra staff and we have gone about the cost cutting exercises that we said we would.
- For example, with the Customer Relationship Management program (Memforce), the market testing process will save the HSU \$526,000 over the next three years.

- HSU NSW also saves \$450,000 a year on IT infrastructure.
- The insurance brokerage tender, which we have recently completed, will save us \$200,000 a year.
- The legal tender has been finalised and two law firms now service the HSU.
- The retail discounts program for members has been put out to market and we now use “Union Shopper” which saves around \$100,000 a year.
- The production of the Union magazine now costs \$500,000 a year less than before to produce.
- All these savings amount to over \$1.5M.
- The property review is ongoing and we have been consolidating our properties. This process will continue for some time yet.
- We have increased the number of HSU members over that time. What this shows is that faith in the Union is being restored.
- We have lifted the internal controls and the governance of the Union and we are now reporting to a company level standard. As I have said before, other Unions will probably have to catch up on that. As the Secretary has mentioned, the Abbott Government is bringing in legislation to establish the Registered Organisations Commission (ROC) which will be an ongoing body to scrutinise Unions for even the most minor of things and find fault where it can. That will be a challenge for all Unions, but we are more ready than most Unions.
- In the next few months we have to ‘cleanse’ our membership data which will ensure the details we have on members is up to date. Particularly in the areas of their classifications, age, emails and other contact details.
- I mentioned earlier that the HSU’s net assets when we first came in was \$192,000. Because of the work that has been done, our net assets are now \$7.7m.

The President thanked the Secretary/Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer for all the hard work done all throughout the year.

RESOLUTION

Moved S Fraser/C Charles that the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer’s report be received and noted.

Motion put and carried.

FINANCE REPORT:

As per attached.

RESOLUTION

Moved J Holgate/P Reid the finance report be received and noted.

Motion put and carried.

AGENDA ITEM 1 – LITIGATION

The Union has filed an amended application to Supreme Court listing Peter Mylan and Kerry Seymour has responded in relation to the ongoing matter that was instigated by the Administrator. It should be noted attempts to mediate by and that the expenses of the Union have not delivered any outcome therefore directions will be sought by the Supreme Court. In relation to other individuals connected with the Williamson matter preliminary legal activity is being undertaken.

RESOLUTION

This item is for information purposes only.

AGENDA ITEM 2 - AUDITOR'S REPORT – HSU NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

HSU New South Wales Branch Council notes that the Audited Financial Statements were received by Union Council at the meeting of 19th November 2013 and have since been made available for members to review.

Branch Council has heard the report of the Auditor from Nexia Court and therefore adopts the Audited Financial Statements for the period ending 30 June 2013.

HSU New South Wales Branch Council therefore authorises the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer to sign the Designated Officer's Certificate for the period ending 30 June 2013.

Further, that these reports be sent to Fair Work Australia in line with reporting requirements.

RESOLUTION

Moved P Reid/C Lee that the Auditor's report be received and noted.

Motion put and carried.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – TRUSTEE & BANKRUPTCY

Mr Michael Jones of Jones Partners attended the BCOM meeting to address the Committee of the opportunities in recouping any funds from the assets not already identified of Michael Williamson bankruptcy case.

The Committee expressed interest in getting full briefing in relation to the investigation strategies and advised Mr Jones that a budget projection and timeframe of regular report backs in relation to the investigation and together with a cost estimate is to be supplied by Mr Jones before the next Council meeting which is to be held on 6th December 2013.

RESOLUTION

Moved P Reid/C Lee that the Branch Council authorises the Secretary to write to Jones Partners being appointed as Bankruptcy Trustees in the Michael Williamson matter seeking further information regarding investigation, strategies and associated expenditure on behalf of HSU members.

Motion put and carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

There being no general business the meeting closed at 3.43 p.m.

Chairperson