

**ASSOCIATION OF
TOURIST AND HERITAGE RAIL
AUSTRALIA**

ABN 19755744868



MINUTES – BOARD MEETING 24 FEBRUARY 2006

Meeting held at New Norfolk - Tasmania NSW

Attendance – as per attendance register

Meeting commenced at 1330hrs 24February

Apologies; W Doubleday, I Willis, P Berriman, P Ford

- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting** (15-16 Oct 2005). Moved M Roberts, Sec L Watson, that minutes previously distributed be accepted as a true record. Carried
- 4 **Business arising from minutes;** None.
- 5 **Chairman's report;** P Rollason spoke briefly to his written report, making special note of the recognition received by the awarding of the ARA Safety Award to Graeme Breydon. Moved P Rollason, Sec M Roberts that report be accepted. Carried
- 6 **Correspondence;** As per correspondence listing In and Out. Moved B Homann Sec P Silva that correspondence be accepted. Carried
- 7 **Treasurer's report.**
 - 7.1 Treasurer spoke to his tabled report. Moved M Roberts, sec A Coen that the report be accepted. Carried.
 - 7.2 Budget discussions centred on the issue of attendance costs for face to face meetings. Various suggestions were made (travel rationalisation, use of Syd-Melb-Adel triangle). It was noted that following an approach by a commercial tour organiser that some revenue opportunities exist via paid ads in the electronic newsletter.
 - 7.2.1 Action. M Roberts to prepare a discussion paper on possibilities for presentation at the next meeting.
 - 7.2.2 A suggestion for a cash award to smaller rail groups from surplus funds was aired for future discussion when considering budgets.
 - 7.3 J Glastonbury spoke to the RHA motion as per a written submission. C LeMarshall suggested that an independent review might be of assistance and offered to make enquiries.
 - 7.3.1 Motion; "RHA(NSW) requests that ATHRA carries out a complete review of its membership fees, budgets and proposed expenditures" Moved J Glastonbury, Sec G Breydon. Carried. There was some discussion re the merits of an independent review, but no conclusion, or motion to that effect.
- 8 **Membership,**
 - 8.1 No new memberships have been received since last meeting.
 - 8.2 Current membership status as per Secretary's membership database
- 9 **State/Member reports**
 - 9.1 RHA (NSW). The draft of the new issue of the RHA newsletter was presented.

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- 9.2 TatRail. Report presented at meeting
- 9.3 ACT. M Roberts provided a brief verbal report
- 9.4 ATR (Vic) report distributed prior to meeting
- 9.5 ARPG (WA). L Watson provided a brief verbal report.
- 9.6 Qld. P Rollason provided a brief summary of a written report
- 9.7 CHRTSA. B Busch provided a brief verbal report.

- 10 Constitution.
 - 10.1 Advice had been received from the SA Office of Consumer and Business Affairs that the changes from the October meeting had been accepted.
Move B Homann, sec A Coen, that changes to the Constitution as approved by the SA OC&BA be ratified. Carried

- 11 Insurance,
 - 11.1 M Roberts provided an update on current policy and suggested to all rail groups that they appoint a single contact person to avoid problems caused by several individuals from one organising providing conflicting information and/or requests to the broker.
 - 11.2 Damon Baker (Willis Australia) gave an illustrated presentation on the company. He indicated that approximately 50% of the heritage rail groups are now insured via Willis.
 - 11.3 As a future improvement, it was suggested that Willis consider doing a “road show” presentation to the state bodies.

- 12 Subcommittee Reports
 - 12.1 Rail Safety and Rail Reform, G Breydon spoke at length to the items on the project summary listing.
 - 12.2 ME79 and Rule Book. J Glastonbury and B Busch noted changes to AS4292.1 allowing use of established practices, and changes to the requirements for training rail safety workers.
 - 12.3 Rail Skills and careers Council. P Rollason advised this group had not met since the last ATHRA meeting.
 - 12.4 ARA. C LeMarshall reinforced the value ARA placed on ATHRA as a representative of the T&H rail sector.
 - 12.5 Training P Ford was unavailable due to other work commitments.
 - 12.6 Promotion. P Silva Information on an Australian Rail Heritage Trail had been emailed earlier.
Action; For discussion at state level after Peter reworks document in light of meeting discussion.
 - 12.7 P Rollason noted the appointment of John Hoy (ETRB) to the TDT Advisory Committee. It was hoped this would enable future funding to be accessed to further training practicalities

- 13 Gary Barker address; Gary Barker, representing Road Steam Owners and Operators outlined his submission and subsequent talks with the NOHSC in regard to the draft new standard for licensing of people for high risk work (i.e. boilers and reciprocating steam engines. This coincided with similar issues being addressed by ATHRA, and it was

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- recognised that with the encouragement Gary had received, that there needed to be urgent joint talks with NOHSC with representatives of all elements of heritage steam operation.
- 13.1 “Addendum; further to this issue, a meeting of some members of the ATHRA rail safety reference group at Belgrave (and by phone hook-up) on Wed 8 March clarified some issues to enable G Breydon to arrange contact with NOHSC”. Involved were J Hoy, A Gardiner, H Hibgame (ETRB), G Breydon, B Homann, B Sneddon (ATR). Graeme to speak to Gary re representation from Marine interests.
- 14 ATHRA Strategic Plan. C LeMarshall highlighted aspects of primary importance at present. These included presentation of the T&H sector \$\$ input to the national economy, co-operative buying opportunities, and infrastructure asset reviews (suggested as a Board issue).
- 15 Presentation by Tasmanian Rail Safety Manager (Mrs P Nicholls)
- 15.1 Mrs Nicholls outlined to work of a regulator in a relatively “rail poor” state, where there were more T&H rail groups than commercial. A Safety management System template is being prepared. This is expected in late April, and will need to be tailored to each group’s individual requirements. She identified what the regulators in general were most concerned about in respect of the T&H sector.
- 15.1.1 Ageing rail infrastructure – track and rolling stock.
- 15.1.2 Competency of rail safety workers
- 15.1.3 Contract maintenance management
- 15.1.4 Lack of integrated rail safety culture – not learning from external sources and bringing awareness to all levels within group.
- 15.1.5 Interface management
- 15.1.6 Passenger safety – boarding and alighting (3 fatalities per year (over whole rail industry)
- 15.1.7 Level Crossings (37 fatalities per year due to train impacts nation wide over whole industry)
- 16 General Business
- 16.1 Tourism Aust involvement. T Fischer is keen to assist but work overload inhibits involvement.
- 16.2 Promotion of railways. Suggested that a direct link be made on the web site to state group brochures.
- 16.3 Newsletter. Positive feedback was received on the last issue. Suggested that editing could be farmed out to a person not necessarily a delegate. Suggestions sought.
- 16.4 Sponsor Project discussion ATHRA, TMG and RTAA. A proposal is with RTAA at present.
- 16.5 Railway heritage Conference (Japan). Details of this will appear in Graeme Breydon’s newsletter report.
- 16.6 175th anniversary of rail in Australia. Suggested explanation go in next newsletter, and a “tagline” go on the website. Discussion was inconclusive.
- 16.7 FRONZ purchasing guide. Paul to put small article in next newsletter.

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- 16.8 RIGA Charter. To be circulated with discussion at State level to compare with Burra Charter and Institution Of Engineers to determine if ATHRA should have a position on the use of the RIGA.
- 16.9 State minutes availability. State groups are encouraged to distribute their own minutes to other states. As an aside, the state groups are encouraged again to develop positional email addresses rather than personal addresses to make mailing list maintenance to be much easier.
- 16.10 ATHRA Website. Mark Griffiths approved as Webmaster. He requested feedback on any changes/improvements to the site.
- 16.11 RHA Motion' moved J Glastonbury "RHA(NSW) requests that ATHRA carries out a review of the necessity of and the benefits to be gained from holding two members' meetings a year". The latter sentence of the motion as tabled in the written RHA(NSW) submission was withdrawn by J Glastonbury. Motion seconded P Silva. Carried. Action Executive.
- 16.12 Sourcing meeting cost sponsorship. Ongoing, largely by C LeMarshall
- 16.13 National heritage boiler inspectorate. A round the table review indicated that all states expected to be facing problems sourcing inspectors knowledgeable on heritage boilers within the next five years. This issue relates to agenda item 13, and will be incorporated with that in the future.
- 16.14 Next meeting will be held at Ipswich (QLD) 8-10 September 2006. A PowerPoint presentation was delivered giving a brief rundown on planned events.

The Chairman thanked Tony Coen for his assistance, in making the meeting arrangements, together with the management of the Junction Inn Motel, New Norfolk. He also expressed special thanks for the hospitality extended by Federal Hotels during the pre-meeting visit to the West Coast Wilderness Railway. In particular, thanks were extended to Eamonn Seddon (WCWR CEO), and Don Marshall (WCWR Engineering Manager). The Tasmania Transport Museum and the Derwent Valley Railway were also thanked for their hospitality during site visits during the meeting weekend.

The meeting closed at 1130hrs on 26Feb2006.

Minutes confirmed / / 2006

Chairman
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