

GENERAL MEETING

10TH MAY 2025 MINUTES & REPORTS ONLINE TEAMS MEETING – CONVENED IN GYMPIE

Contents

MINUTES	2
CORRESPONDENCE REPORT	11
PRESIDENT REPORT	16
OPERATIONS MANAGER REPORT	18
Finance Report	20
RFBAQ Debit Cards	26
Supplier Payment History	27
Art Union Comparison Graphs	29
Art Union 100 Financial Return	33
GENERAL MANAGER REPORT	34
Written Report	35



MINUTES



Minutes: For the meeting held on Saturday, 10th May 2025 – Online Teams Meeting

Convened in Gympie

Attendance:

Ian Pike (President) (IP) Ian Swadling (IS) Gary Patzwald (GP)

Ben Heilbronn (BH)David Black (DB)Barry Child (BC)Les Green (LG)John Muscat (JM)Sandy Brown (SB)Robert Lang (RL)Alan Gillespie (AG)Justin Choveaux (JC)

Ashleigh Rowcliffe (AR)

Secretariat:

Jessica Stark (JS)

Apologies:

Jim Besgrove (JB) Gaven Bunker (GB) Cam Tindal (CT)

Peter Simpson (PS) Pat Noye (PN) Nick Swadling (NS)

Angela Endres (AE) Cath Duddy (CD) Rachael Loveland (RLo)

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Welcome & Opening of Meeting

8.13AM President declared meeting open.

1.1. Leave of Absence

Jim Besgrove

Gaven Bunker

Cam Tindall

Peter Simpson

Pat Noye

Nick Swadling

Angela Endres

Cath Duddy

Rachael Loveland

1.2. Proxies

Jim Besgrove gives his proxy to Ben Heilbronn

Cam Tindall gives his proxy to Ben Heilbronn

Gaven Bunker gives his proxy to John Muscat

Peter Simpson gives his proxy to Ian Pike

Pat Noye gives her proxy to Ian Pike



Nick Swadling gives his proxy to Ian Swadling

Angela Endres giver her proxy to Alan Gillespie

Cath Duddy gives her proxy to Gary Patzwald

Rachael Loveland gives her proxy to Les Green

2. ADMINISTRATION

2.1. Minutes and Business Arising

a. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion: The minutes of the previous meeting dated Saturday, 12th October 2024 are adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Moved: IS Seconded: DB

Carried: 10/05/2025

b. Business Arising from the Minutes

a. JC – Motion for RFBAQ to raise concerns with the Commissioner regarding the draft model rules and our reasons why. We sent it off to them, which led them going out and seeing the brigades. They did make some changes.

2.2. Correspondence

a. Correspondence Register

b. Acceptance of Correspondence

Motion: That the Correspondence Report be accepted.

Moved: GP Seconded: IP

Carried: 10/05/2025

c. Business Arising from Correspondence

- a. GP Page 4, Ormeau hardship grant? JC Explained it was a volunteer affected by the cyclone.
- b. IS Page 4, request for additional information on light attack. JC Jillian asked for additional information on the pebble for the Whetstone handover.
- c. IS Page 5, Ian Andrew, Thermaguard heat shield and deluge system? JC This is something we have been working on since 2021. The fire service gave us a lot of reasons as to why they couldn't do it. We wrote to the Ministers office, and they said it would be awarded at the end of March, but it wasn't and was supposed to be at the end of April but wasn't. I think it comes down to the fire service doesn't have any money.
- d. IS Page 5, Guardian? JC This is also something we started looking at in 2020 to go on slip on units for the safety of PPB's etc. It's like an Epirb just for the fire service. JC explained how it would work. The fire service just isn't interested in it. I have sent it to the Ministers Office, but they are completely snowed under
- e. IS Page 5, suspend contracts? JC This is in relation to the light attacks. There are 91 being built with no prototype. We asked the fire service to suspend the build until a protype could be built and sent around for feedback from the volunteers.
- f. IS Page 5, request to investigate QFD? JC We requested the Minister to investigate the QFD for dissolving 1400 incorporated associations.



3. GENERAL BUSINESS - REPORTS

3.1. Presidents Report

IP tabled his President May 2025 General Meeting Report

Acceptance of President Report

Motion: The President Report for the May 2025 General Meeting is accepted.

Moved: IP Seconded: SB

Carried: 10/05/2025

a. Business Arising from Presidents Report

- a. GP how many people were at whetstone? IP There was quite a few and it was a good night.
- b. JC Lawrence Springborg has written a letter to the Fire Minister regarding to Qbuild and the Fire Service. QFD told us it was government policy to use Qbuild, but that's not correct. We spoke to the new minister, and they have said it's not their policy. We have also spoken to another minister who is going to take it to cabinet to get a government specific policy so we can go back to the Commissioner.
- c. JC Horseshoe Bay got onto me about extending their fence as we have previously given them a grant for fencing. I told them to get onto state about. SB – Ours was paid by state. RL - Explained what's happening in his area with Qbuild getting involved resulting in the price going through the roof. This can't keep going on. BH - Qbuild is part of the problem. Another problem is not having someone to approve the contract. We are at the point of having to ask suppliers for a 4th quote. We still don't have a contract 14 months after starting the process. RL – That's the same in Gracemere. What do we do about it? BH – Go to your local member and/or your minister. If we all start being loud about it, they will need to do something about it. IP – There will be a lot more. We all need to work on our local politicians. RL – Is the minister approachable? IP – Our group has sent in letters, and they just get passed on. GP – We need to push the members of parliament otherwise we will just look like the bad guys. AG – The Minister is very approachable. She is very well aware of the issues going on in RFS. There is a lot of momentum around the RFBAQ policy of RFS being a separate entity as a statutory authority with its own board and own commissioner. The more pressure you apply the more forward thinking the politicians will be. Encourage all of your brigades to contact their local members.

3.2. Operations Manager Report

AR tabled her Operations Manager Report for the May 2025 General meeting and provided an overview.

Acceptance of Operations Manager Report

Motion: Operations Manager Report and Financials for February 2025 is accepted.

Moved: GP Seconded: BH

Carried: 10/05/2025

a. Business Arising from Operations Manager Report

- a. AR The new server has been installed. The migration will happen next week on the Gympie show long weekend to
- b. GP Where are we at with BOQ? AR Its going really well, Tammara is great to deal with.



- c. IS Sexual and gender-based training, how much is that costing? AR It's included in the annual fee we pay Michael Corrigan.
- d. JC I would like to say thank you to Ash and Jess for the time they put in. The money is down but all charities are feeling it at the moment. AR Even though the money is down, we are still giving out money to brigades.
- e. GP How much cash reserve would you estimate at the moment? AR About 3 million. We have 1 million locked in a term deposit and can't touch it. We are looking at locking in another 1 million.

3.3. General Manager Report

JC tabled his General Manager Report for May 2025 General meeting and provided an overview.

a. Acceptance of General Manager Report

Motion: The General Manager Report for the May 2025 General Meeting is accepted.

Moved: RL Seconded: DB

Carried: 10/05/2025

b. Business Arising from General Manager Report

a. JC – To be a statutory authority we need legislation to be written. To write legislation is not easy as you need the resources of the Government. In the meantime, we could have a director general. It would mildly amend the current legislation to have a director general in charge of rural fire & fire and rescue. This would give us access to Carly who writes legislation. That would allow us to start drafting the legislation to give us statutory authority. I believe this is where we need to go. They don't need to be a firefighter at all. GP – Have we heard from Joanne lately? JC – Yes, she would not come back under the current commissioner. My recommendation to the government is that Joanne would be a great director general and could effect change. RL – Is she available? JC – She is a Chief Operating Officer for Federal Health, but I think she would be very keen on doing it. RL – I can only speak very highly of her and think she would be a very appropriate person to fill that position. AG – She would be keen to come back under the right conditions. I like the idea with the director general, it would ensure we don't get stuff over again. I think it's a great idea.

4. GRANT APPLICATION

- 4.1. GN25/666 Stonehenge Rural Fire Brigade \$1,498 Closeable Cabinets
- a. JC Explained the grant application. There are 4 active, and 2 support members They don't have a bank or any income. It's been supported by the area office and RFBAQ rep. **All happy to support full amount.**
- **4.2.** GN25/667 Kunwarara Rural Fire Brigade \$7,800 Zero turn mower
- a. JC Explained the previous grants they have had including one of the Toyota Landcruiser's. They have 29 cents in their own account. In their RFS account they are over what they have. RL The brigade has done very well out of the RFBAQ, and have made no attempt to fundraiser for this so I would be happy to contribute some but not the full amount. IP What about 50%? RL I don't know how they will fund the rest. IP Maybe you need to talk to them about how they will come up with the rest of the money. We would approve 50%. IS They



could get a smaller mower for cheaper. GP-Can we write back saying we approve 50% if they can prove they can pay the rest? IP-Another idea is we offer \$4,000 towards a mower. It may need to be a cheaper mower. GP-I think they have already done very well out of us. **All in favour to support with \$4,000 towards a mower.**

- **4.3.** GN25/668 North Stradbroke Island \$2,074 Tools
- a. JC This brigade exists because of the RFBAQ. They have had several previous grants from us. Has all the required support needed. BH – I do support it; they are hardworking members.
 All members support the grant in full
- 9.26am Break for morning tea
- 9.45am Meeting resumed

5. General Business Continued

- **5.1.** JC Ashleigh Rowcliffe 10-year anniversary as Operations Manager and 17 years of service
- a. IP Congratulations to Ash for 10 years as Operations Manager and for 17 years of service. AR Thank you very much.

5.2. JC – New reps

a. JC – There are 6 new areas and nominations were sent out. We have a rep for the Cape York area, Tony Lankaster who is in Weipa. He was the only applicant and meets the requirements, so he is the rep for that area. We received an application for Roma from Adrian Bucknell and was also the only nomination. Another application was from Marty Davey who is a long term first officer of a very active brigade, and he will be the South Coast Rep. I am currently talking to a possible candidate in the Western Rivers area. I had a good candidate for the Charters Towers area, and they had filled in the application, but he has decided he has had enough and has given rural fire up completely. You will meet all the new reps at the AGM in October. We have started to align our areas to reflect the boundary changes. We will do a website update with all the new reps' areas and emails. We will see 26 reps at the AGM in October, so meeting expenses will go up as well.

5.3. JC - Legal Status of Brigades

a. JC – You would have seen the email we sent to the Minister's office and Attorney General. The reply that come back didn't answer the question we asked. The questions we did ask have now gone back to the fire service. We believe the unincorporated associations still exist as they didn't vote to become unincorporated or hand their stuff over. There is a small possibility that what the Commissioner has done since the 1st of July in relation to the unincorporated association is not supported by law. If it is, this will huge news. QFES took legal advice under the Bluewater review. The legal advice was they couldn't take their stuff without the organisations signing their stuff over. Watch this space, we are waiting for a reply. Jim Besgrove also got legal advice on this, the lawyers all looked at the brigade as the entity and not the unincorporated association. My suggestion is for the fire service to create an incorporated association like pony club. If they don't answer our question, what I am thinking of doing is send out our question we asked and their answers to the brigades and that will cause a huge problem for them. JC – Swado chased it up with Deb Frecklington. She is going to

chase it up. GP – When is the next LGAQ? JC – 20th of October. IS – Another issue Robert spoke to me about recently was an area office took \$5,000 from a brigade account to fix a truck. RL - Yes, it was Gracemere RFB. RL explained the situation. There was an unauthorised transaction for \$5,000 that the QFD done. JC - You need to get the brigade to write you an email about it so we can follow it up. RL – On another topic, there was a volunteer who was diagnosed with cancer and rural fire are being less than cooperative and obstructing claims to progress through to Workcover. JC – I just text you Leeah James number, get him to give her a call. She will give him free advice and help him get his claim through. AG - In November last year I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Work cover tried to say I didn't meet the 15-year requirement which I definitely did. I had to go back through group certificates to prove I was employed with them. No one from RFS ever contacted me to offer any support. It didn't matter for me as I knew how to go about it, but the volunteers won't know how to and who to contact. BH – My hand was up for the purpose of that we did a vote of no confidence in the finance model in November last year, and we were told it would all be sorted in the new year by the Chief Office who has since left and now questions are going unanswered. We are now further away to getting these problems fixed. How do we go about getting this fixed? IS -Talk to the new Chief Officer. BH – Does the Minister know about all of the issues? JC – She knows there are issues but not to the full extent. IS - Do a case study and send it to the Minister. BH - The vote of no confidence still stands. IS - But there is a new Chief Officer, so it is worth sending it again. JC – We have a meeting with the Minister on Monday. We have a lot on the agenda to talk to her about with only a half hour time slot.

Les Green left the meeting at 10.21am

5.4. JC – Parliamentary Inquiry into Volunteering

a. JC – There was over 560 submissions. They are now going around the state to take verbal submissions. When I get notification, I will send it onto the local rep. It is our understanding that there will be an interim report. AG – Have we had any feedback from people who have done one? JC – No, I have spoken to people who were preparing to give one. I have been going through the transcripts and can see there wasn't anyone from rural fire going in there. IP – These hearings are like going to court, they call it evidence gathering. The one I went to there was no paid staff. JC – I sent everyone a copy of both mine and Pikey's witness statement.

5.5. JC – RFSQ not taking minutes

a. JC – It appears that the fire service is no long taking minutes of our meetings, and I would like a resolution to say it's completely unacceptable that they have stopped taking minutes and not have actions items and request they start taking comprehensive minutes again and distribute to all parties involved.

Motion: RFBAQ to write to RFSQ/QFD to request that they return to taking comprehensive minutes of meetings and that they should be distributed to the attendees. We also reserve the right to have our own minute taking minutes as well.

Moved: IS Seconded: DB

Carried: 10/05/2025

Unanimous



5.6. RL – Database of contact details of brigade members

a. RL – The brigade details I have got are 50% incorrect. IP – I have up to date details for brigade's details. JM – I definitely don't have all my brigades. SB – I don't have all of mine and area office refuse to give it to me. JM – If I ask for it, they will give it to me. RL – The RFBAQ can get the contact details, can't you? JC – They won't supply us the details they use to. They are using the privacy act against us. Its not going well in the fire service. Heaps of staff are leaving. I think we will get what we want, it's just a case of when.

5.7. JM – Side by side insurance

a. JM – I want clarification on side by sides. We are being told it has to be registered but the trailer we tow it with doesn't. IP – I was told the opposite. JC - The vehicle would need to be in a roadworthy condition. RFBAQ to write to the commissioner and inquire what the registration status is on side by sides and if they need to be registered. JM moved SB seconded

Motion: RFBAQ to write to the Commissioner and ask what their policy is on registering side by side vehicles and trailers.

Moved: JM Seconded: SB

Carried: 10/05/2025

5.8. DB - 51's

a. DB – We had three 51's and they are all whinging about them. One couldn't get into low gear. Another issue is with fuel consumption, so they are storing fuel in their stations which is not good. First aid and Defib shelf has been raised, so short people can't reach it. IS – I've been told the handbrakes aren't holding on hills. JC – We could write to the fire service and request they reinstate the meetings to allow volunteer feedback. RL – Are we getting one of the Super Duties? JC – No

5.9. JM - Security Camera Issues

a. JM – I have been asked to turn off the security cameras because they are a Chinese brand. Anyone else with the same issue? IP – Mine are not a Chinese brand. BH – Who is going to finance the new cameras and the install? JM – That's why I am asking the question, but no one can answer it. JC – Can you send us the details and we can write to the Chief Officer asking them to replace them.

5.10. IS – Meeting with Deb Frecklington

a. IS – I had a meeting with Deb Frecklington, my local member. It was a good meeting; she was very receptive. I distributed the talking points to you all by email. I spoke to her about one of my brigades and the issues they are having with their truck. The brigade took it to Bell Engineering and asked them to fix it a certain way, and they were told that's what they wanted to do in the first place, but the fire service said no. We spoke about the finance issues. I also spoke to her about Joanne Greenfield being the best for the job. I went through all of the issues we have been chasing them on and that we are getting nowhere. I told her we want separation. It was a great meeting, and I recommend all reps to get onto their local members and tell them all the issues we are experiencing. We need to make as much noise as possible. GP – I have a meeting booked sometime in the future. JM – We have met with all our



members, and we have been told something will be happening in the next 2 weeks that will sort some of the issues out.

5.11. IS – Restrict meetings to one day

a. IS – Can we restrict the general meeting to one day? IP – We have visitors coming on Sunday. JC – We have our Annual Public Fund Meeting and AGM at the next one though. IS – Even still, as of late we are always just trying to find stuff to talk about on Sunday to fill the day. JC – I think we need to do more business. IS – The last few meetings we have been done on the Saturday, so I don't see why we can't do them in just one day. IP open to the floor for everyone's thoughts. IS – I just think we are wasting money. RL – I agree to some of the stuff, but we don't get together that often and I am happy to continue how we have been. JM – We don't get to meet very often, and I think we should take advantage of it. We could invite more guest speakers. IP – We currently have Craig Stolte and the Minister. I suggest you write in who you would like to see. AR – The cost of guest speakers needs to be considered as well. JC – There was a suggestion for Tyrone the Deputy Chief Officer, Joanne Greenfield, Karen from Kedron to come in on the Sunday. JC – How about we invite Tyrone and Karen? All happy with that.

5.12. GP – Farmfest

a. GP - I am going to Farmfest and Justin is having signs made up for me that I will put on Cambooya stand, so people can call me, and I will go meet them onsite. JC – John Welke just cancelled Farmfest with no consultation. I will get a story in the Country Life about it and might write to the local members of parliament. GP – I was told they aren't doing it anymore because the stand cost \$20,000. AG – It definitely doesn't cost that much.

5.13. IS – Bushfire Heavy's

a. IS – Update on trucks? JC - They have now found their own trust funded trucks and the cab chassis will be out of warranty. They had to replace the pumps as the one on it was too small. Brisbane has said regions and areas are going to get it and there will be a statewide tour on these trucks. IP – They were supposed to be doing an EOI for the trucks. JC – They have said 2 days ago there will a truck tour. We have no idea how much these trucks have cost. IP - \$750,000 each then they have blown out another \$200,000. There should be around \$400,000 left in the account. IS – Is there a financial statement for the account? JC – Pikey gets it but is not allowed to share it. JC – How often should the trust legally have to report to the tax office? How do they get around not publicly sharing this information? And how do they get around not reporting to the Charities Commission? IP – It's not a charity because they are looking into setting up a charity. JC – But it is DGR status, so there is charitable intent. Because it's a trust it's not reported anywhere but I just can't see how that is right. BH – That's a question for charities not for profit commission.

6. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- 6.1. Proposed date and time of next Annual General Meeting: Proposed 10th to 12th October 2025
- All happy with date of next meeting.

Meeting closed at 11.45AM



CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

1ST MARCH TO 31ST MARCH 2025

C#	Date	I/O	Organisation	Individual	Subject	Description
103245	12/3/25	In	ANZ		Bank Statement	Transaction Account
103246	12/3/25	In	ANZ		Bank Statement	Townsville account
103256	13/3/25	In	ANZ		Bank Statement	Odd Account
103268	19/3/25	In	ANZ		Bank Statement	Even Account
103291	31/3/25	In	ANZ		Bank Statement	General Account
103292	31/3/25	In	ANZ		Bank Statement	Public Fund Account- March - PF
103294	27/3/25	Out	Attorney	Deb	Request to	
			General	Frecklington	investigate QFD	
103247	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Public Fund Account - February - PF
103248	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Savings Account - ending in 387
103249	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Business Websavings Account
103250	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	General Account
103251	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Odd Account
103252	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Even Account
103253	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Onlines Account
103254	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Direct Debit Account
103255	12/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Debit Cards Account
103290	31/3/25	In	BOQ		Bank Statement	Term Deposit account - Ending in 581
103266	14/3/25	In	CAVFA	Bruce Corbett	Web Meeting	
103288	26/3/25	In	Department of Local Government, Waters & Volunteers	Charlotte Young	Contact - volunteering	
103289	26/3/25	Out	Department of Local Government, Waters & Volunteers	Charlotte Young	Contact - volunteering	
103285	24/3/25	In	Goondiwindi Regional Council	Kate Cranney	Photo permission request	
103286	24/3/25	Out	Goondiwindi Regional Council	Kate Cranney	Photo permission request	
103296	27/3/25	Out	Gympie Today	Arthur Gorrie	RFBAQ Statement to Public Hearing Inquiry into Volunteering in Queensland	

C#	Date	I/O	Organisation	Individual	Subject	Description
103283	24/3/25	Out	Misc	Tony	RFBAQ Cape	
				Lankester	York Rep	
103298	28/3/25	In	Misc	Tony	RFBAQ Cape	
102200	20/2/25	0	NA:o-	Lankester	York Rep	
103299	28/3/25	Out	Misc	Tony Lankester	RFBAQ Cape York Rep	
103271	25/3/25	In	North	Elisabette	Grant	
			Millstream RFB	Gianasi	Application	
103272	25/3/25	Out	North Millstream RFB	Elisabette Gianasi	Grant Application	Grant application received - GN25/664
103269	21/3/25	In	Northern Region Operational Support Group	Jim Besgrove	Grant Application	
103270	24/3/25	Out	Northern Region Operational Support Group	Jim Besgrove	Grant Application	Grant application received - GN25/663
103257	18/3/25	Out	Ormeau RFB		Hardship Grant	Closed & Finalised
103264	10/3/25	In	PNG Fire Service	Benny Win	Request for Firefighting Cases, Skills and Drills with Checks and Calls	Correspondence, received in error
103258	10/3/25	In	Property Rights Australia	Dale Stiller	Speaker for PRA Conference	
103259	10/3/25	Out	Property Rights Australia	Dale Stiller	Speaker for PRA Conference	
103243	5/3/25	Out	QFD (Qld Fire Department)		BSD Transfer	
103244	6/3/25	In	QFD (Qld Fire Department)	Matthew Thompson	2025 Summit Requirements	
103261	11/3/25	In	QFD (Qld Fire Department)	Jillian Butler	Request for additional information on Whetstone Light Attack	
103262	11/3/25	Out	QFD (Qld Fire Department)	Jillian Butler	Request for additional information on	

C#	Date	I/O	Organisation	Individual	Subject	Description
					Whetstone Light Attack	
103263	13/3/25	Out	QFD (Qld Fire Department)		BSD Transfer	
103265	13/3/25	Out	QFD (QId Fire Department)	Steve Smith	Request for Firefighting Cases, Skills and Drills with Checks and Calls	Forwarded correspondence, received in error
103273	14/3/25	Out	QFD (Qld Fire Department)		BSD Transfer	
103277	17/3/25	In	QFD (Qld Fire Department)	Craig Stolte	Operational communications update & catch up	
103280	20/3/25	Out	QFD (Qld Fire Department)		BSD Transfer	
103297	27/3/25	Out	QFD (Qld Fire Department)		BSD Transfer	
103239	4/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Thermaguard Radiant Heat Shields	CC'd in Angus McCaffrey
103240	4/3/25	In	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Thermaguard Radiant Heat Shields	CC'd in Angus McCaffrey
103241	4/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Deluge system retrofits	CC'd in Angus McCaffrey
103275	17/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Matters raised with the Fire Service	CC'd in Angus McCaffrey
103279	18/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	RFBAQ / RFSQ Volunteer Charter	
103287	24/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	lan Andrew	Invitation to attend RFBAQ Annual General Meeting	CC'd in Angus McCaffrey
103293	27/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ann Leahy	Request to investigate QFD	
103295	27/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Request to investigate QFD	CC'd in Angus McCaffrey
103300	28/3/25	In	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Contracts for firefighting equipment	

C#	Date	I/O	Organisation	Individual	Subject	Description
103303	31/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Contracts for firefighting equipment	
103242	4/3/25	Out	Qld Ministerial	Ian Andrew	Guardian	CC'd in Angus McCaffrey
103260	11/3/25	In	Queensland Parliamentary Service	Kylie Guthrie	Invitation to attend as a witness for the Inquiry into volunteering in Qld	
103278	18/3/25	In	Queensland Parliamentary Service		Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland	Stakeholder update
103284	24/3/25	In	Queensland Parliamentary Service	Margaret Telford	Public hearing information	
103281	21/3/25	In	RFSQ	Liv Grant	RFSQ & RFBAQ bi-monthly meeting with Chief Officer	
103282	21/3/25	Out	RFSQ	Liv Grant	RFSQ & RFBAQ bi-monthly meeting with Chief Officer	
103301	31/3/25	Out	RFSQ	Liv Grant	Agenda items for Bi-monthly meeting	
103302	31/3/25	In	RFSQ	Liv Grant	Agenda items for Bi-monthly meeting	
103274	17/3/25	Out	The National Firefighter	Leigh Roberts	Free editorial	
103276	17/3/25	Out	The National Firefighter	Leigh Roberts	YRD 25 packs	
103267	18/3/25	In	Walker Pender Group	Gerard Pender		Notification of Funds



PRESIDENT REPORT

FOR MAY 2025 GENERAL MEETING



President's Report

How the time has flown since our last meeting, sadly this period has seen so much disaster, with large fires damaging cyclones flooding leaving major property damage and heartbroken communities plus many brigade members.

It is a good feeling to see all the yellow trucks and there crews on the front line at all these events.

RFBAQ.

Supply of RFBAQ branded backpacks to QLD volunteers deploying overseas.

Hand over of appliance to a brigade in the Inglewood area (Wetstone).

Meeting with Commissioner and new Chief Officer. (Notes forwarded to Reps)

Medal Presentations = Long lost medals from 2019-2020 fires

Thanks to all Reps and staff for there time and hard work.



OPERATIONS MANAGER REPORT

MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 2025



RURAL FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION QLD INC

28 FRASER ROAD, ARALUEN QLD 4570

www.rfbaq.org 07 5480 5130 om@rfbaq.org

ABN: 37 417 474 709

Operations Manager Report – General Meeting May

RFBAQ Office - Araluen

- Meetings with Contact Centre Manager.
- Always trying to reduce costs where possible and bringing overhead down (ongoing).
- Continuously submitting requests for additional Art Union tickets to the Office of Liquor and Gaming.
- Closed more ANZ accounts.
- Held the Art Union 101 draw.
- The winner of Art Union 101 did not want pictures or a story as they opted to take the cash the dealer offered.
- The new server has been physically installed onsite. Now there is configuration needed by EFEX and also PowerConnex. We expect to be able to operate on the new server in the next 3 weeks or so.
- We have got Michael Corrigan from Platinum Employee Relations coming onsite to conduct the Sexual & Gender Based Harassment training on the 20th of May.
- We are now compliant with all our EziDebit accounts, which are our payment gateway provider.
- Dave has successfully completed his probation as Contact Centre Manager.
- Contact Centre staff enjoyed the Easter break.
- We have had another agent transition to working from home, he is going well so far.
- Additional backfill training with Jess.
- There has also been additional admin training with Jana the relief admin.
- Janice is no longer doing admin. We are currently looking at other options to ensure we have sufficient coverage.
- Completed and submitted our financial return for Art Union 100 to the Office of Gaming.
- Art Union Performance graphs attached for AU98, AU99 & AU100.
- The financials, credit cards and supplier payment history are attached.



Finance Report

RURAL FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION QLD INC

28 FRASER ROAD, ARALUEN QLD INC www.rfbaq.org 07 5480 5130 om@rfbaq.org ABN: 37 417 474 709

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2025

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 10th May 2025
Teams Meeting - Convened in Gympie



BALANCE SHEET - AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2025							
	2025	2024					
CURRENT ASSETS	\$	\$					
Cash at Hand							
ANZ General Account	273,441.32	15,490.32					
ANZ Art Union Odd Account	36,384.22	13,678.61					
ANZ Art Union Even Account	16,905.88	62,648.68					
ANZ Townsville Account	-	681,204.33					
ANZ Transaction Account	-	116,576.80					
PUBLIC FUND - Donations	183,171.39	1,981,096.87					
BOQ General Account	45,081.07	-					
BOQ Art Union Odd Account	142,366.12	-					
BOQ Art Union Even Account	10,000.00	-					
BOQ Onlines Account	93,193.95	-					
BOQ Direct Debit Payments Account	27,623.32	-					
BOQ Debit Cards Account	96,100.07	-					
BOQ Public Fund	1,543,087.92						
Petty Cash Imprest	421.30	550.00					
Fuel Card	(195.66)	-					
	2,467,580.90	2,871,245.61					
Other Cash Equivalents	2) 107 /300130	2,07 1,2 13101					
Outstanding GST Refunds	_	_					
ATO Integrated Client Account	_						
Prepayments	20,022.75	26,290.02					
Other Current Assets	20,022.73	20,230.02					
Other Current Assets	20,022.75	26,290.02					
Investments	20,022.73	20,230.02					
ANZ Online Saver Account		930,904.06					
Savings Account	-	577,462.84					
BOQ Savings Account	559,075.94	377,402.04					
BOQ Term Deposit	1,000,000.00	•					
Truck Account	1,000,000.00	1,421.55					
Truck Account	1 550 075 04						
Tuodo Dobtous	1,559,075.94	1,509,788.45					
Trade Debtors	0.750.00	F 000 00					
Sundry Debtors	8,750.00	5,000.00					
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	105 202 51	460,000,64					
Plant and equipment	186,280.51	169,820.61					
Motor Vehicles	79,813.15	79,813.15					
Wage Overpayment	-	-					
02RFB - Ranger - Pebble	-	35,157.07					
Office Furniture & Equipment	-	203,866.37					
Buildings	118,498.45	118,498.45					
Call Centre Client Lists	149,064.01	132,619.02					
Call Centre List (Less Written Off)	(33,291.27)	(70,557.27)					
Accumulated Depreciation	(203,036.54)	(382,462.85)					
	297,328.31	286,754.55					
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4,352,757.90	4,699,078.63					



BALANCE SHEET (continued)						
ì	2025	2024				
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Accounts Payable						
Sundry Creditors	47,322.94	34,921.97				
Accrued Expenses	55,568.43	(28,451.96)				
ANZ Visa Card - Office	-	3,795.93				
ANZ Visa Card - GM	<u> </u>					
	102,891.37	10,265.94				
GST Liabilities						
GST Collected	600.05	4,847.01				
GST Paid	(24,758.89)	4,484.81				
GST Rounding						
	(24,158.84)	9,331.82				
Payroll Liabilities						
PAYG Withholding Liability	20,798.00	20,089.00				
Employee Deductions Liability	-	-				
Superannuation Liability	15,158.38	13,039.23				
Parental Leave	-	-				
Provision for Annual Leave	62,233.81	45,510.44				
Provision for Long Service Leave	67,141.11	85,593.57				
Provision for Superannuation on Leave	13,381.88	13,765.92				
	178,713.18	177,998.16				
TOTAL LIABILITIES	257,445.71	197,595.92				
NIET ACCETC	4.005.242.40	4 504 402 74				
NET ASSETS	4,095,312.19	4,501,482.71				
EQUITY						
Retained Earnings	3,711,188.18	4,000,907.48				
Current Earnings	(266,117.36)	(136,594.70)				
· ·						
TOTAL EQUITY	4,095,312.19	4,501,482.71				



RURAL FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC

P&L PROGESS SNAPSHOT

2024/2025 FY	Budgeted	Actual
	\$	\$
July	0	(155,834.94)
August	0	83,881.05
September	(29,129)	(71,321.24)
October	23,696	(24,746.76)
November	(27,344)	(11,149.00)
December	11,346	(24,795.10)
January	(34,969)	(50,549.82)
February	(122,714)	(20,208.56)
March		
April		
May		
June		

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT - PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2025

	C	URRENT PERIO	D			YEAR TO DATE	
	2025	Budgeted	2024	2024		Budgeted	2024
	\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$
INCOME							
Raffle Proceeds	152,729.00	170,000.00	131,884.60		1,125,645.47	1,293,401.00	1,076,870.92
Donations Received	58,597.00	65,000.00	145,236.89		730,442.52	797,741.00	940,544.49
Wage Subsidy	-	-	5,730.76		8,692.30	-	17,548.94
Grants Received	-	-	-		-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-		-	-	187,834.91
TOTAL INCOME	211,326.00	235,000.00	282,852.25		1,864,780.29	2,091,142.00	2,222,799.26
COST OF SALES							
Cost of Prizes	26,779.07	150,000.00	78,453.87		276,807.33	375,904.00	218,645.72
TOTAL COST OF SALES	26,779.07	150,000.00	78,453.87		276,807.33	375,904.00	218,645.72
GROSS TRADING PROFIT	184,546.93	85,000.00	204,398.38		1,587,972.96	1,715,238.00	2,004,153.54



PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT - Cont....

	CU	IRRENT PERIC)D		YEAR TO DATE		
	2025	Budgeted	2024	2025	2025 Budgeted		
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
OPERATING EXPENSES							
Parental Leave	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Advertising	32.20	35.00	32.20	348.47	591.00	592.60	
Meeting Expenses	291.96	11,000.00	6,584.64	27,112.08	46,883.00	43,893.40	
Insurance	1,151.21	1,155.00	1,129.03	19,059.60	19,084.00	17,706.79	
Lease Expenses	3,634.39	3,650.00	3,545.75	28,454.64	28,492.00	27,760.64	
Motor Vehicle Expenses	758.22	1,000.00	423.09	6,233.44	9,156.00	7,629.27	
Vehicles Donated to Brigades	-	-	-	35,157.07	-	133,459.06	
Audit & Accountancy Fees	-	-	-	12,000.00	10,500.00	10,350.00	
FBT	-	-	-	-	-	3,366.00	
Bank, Merchant & CC Fees	3,223.08	2,300.00	2,747.92	25,221.53	20,280.00	21,492.26	
Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Donations	7,346.00	5,000.00	6,991.30	179,451.39	193,000.00	109,646.70	
Buy Local Grant Project	-	-	8,961.81	8,129.39	29,130.00	360,746.64	
Grants Paid	16,949.99	10,000.00	6,247.40	25,028.21	54,080.00	51,397.97	
Brigade Resources	-	100.00	-	-	200.00	8,525.65	
Sundry Expense	-	50.00	90.91	80.00	300.00	201.53	
Telephone	4,257.95	5,300.00	4,889.63	33,096.16	37,618.00	40,700.29	
Website Expenses	456.74	450.00	435.00	3,501.60	3,530.00	4,095.00	
Legal Costs	-	-	-	-	500.00	1,363.64	
Kitchen Supplies & Amenities	450.50	500.00	443.99	3,391.21	4,065.00	2,976.25	
Electricity	849.50	850.00	849.50	6,796.00	6,800.00	6,796.00	
Licences & Permits	319.44	320.00	-	6,469.04	6,210.00	3,974.00	
Postage	2,698.56	2,800.00	1,511.91	26,468.16	28,081.00	27,315.92	
Printing	1,901.61	1,600.00	861.86	13,632.95	14,498.00	12,313.33	
Magazine Production	9,824.00	-	9,425.61	9,824.00	-	9,425.61	
Office Supplies	173.54	150.00	62.90	1,911.56	1,577.00	1,510.17	
Promotional Material	-	-	-	22,256.95	24,757.00	3,743.50	
Recycling Paper & Cardboard	-	80.00	-	289.08	120.00	289.08	
Repairs & Maintenance	4,728.65	7,500.00	3,042.00	69,342.57	79,011.00	50,583.69	
Subscriptions/Memberships	1,930.91	2,024.00	1,888.54	2,447.81	2,531.00	2,409.17	
Klms, Tolls & Parking	13.64	50.00	44.71	306.63	329.00	397.70	
Fuel Reimbursed	115.60	400.00	504.17	3,145.65	3,464.00	1,758.00	
Depreciation Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Amortisation - CC Lists	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Representatives Expenses	62.27	200.00	620.43	2,807.67	3,444.00	2,539.24	



PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT - Cont....

	CURRENT PERIOD				YEAR TO DATE	
	2025	Budgeted	2024	2025	Budgeted	2024
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Wages & Salaries	129,131.69	135,000.00	116,460.33	1,154,372.73	1,150,655.00	1,050,179.31
Superannuation	14,814.69	15,500.00	12,779.23	131,945.81	131,423.00	115,264.08
Other Employee Expenses	-	100.00	100.00	15,365.95	19,117.00	9,803.64
Provision for Long Service	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provision for Annual Leave	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provision for Super	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provision for Leave & Dep	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	15,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	207,116.34	209,114.00	192,673.86	1,889,647.35	1,945,426.00	2,159,206.13
GROSS OPERATING PROFIT	(22,569.41)	(124,114.00)	11,724.52	(301,674.39)	(230,188.00)	(155,052.59)
OTHER EXPENSES						
Parental Leave	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Received	(2,360.85)	(1,400.00)	(1,503.53)	(24,040.92)	(12,223.00)	(14,156.27)
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	(2,360.85)	(1,400.00)	(1,503.53)	(24,040.92)	(12,223.00)	(14,156.27)
NET PROFIT / LOSS	(20,208.56)	(122,714.00)	13,228.05	(277,633.47)	(217,965.00)	(140,896.32)



RFBAQ Debit Cards

	RFBAQ DEBIT CARD EXPENSES										
	MONTH: FEBRUARY TRANSACTIONS: 01/02/2025 - 28/02/2025										
	MEETING EXPENSES										
FUEL	TOLLS/PARK	O/M	MCM	G/M	AGM	МЕМО					
		\$26.21				Coffees & Food - NROSG					
		\$15.00				Car Parking - NROSG					
			\$40.45			Lunch					
		\$8.00				Morning Tea - Minister Meeting					
		\$244.80				Accom - Whetstone Handover					
	\$0.00	\$294.01	\$40.45		\$0.00						
			GEN	ERAL EXPE	NSES						
	KITCHEN	INCENTIVES	ADVERT	GRANTS	OTHER	МЕМО					
					\$502.41	Hubspot					
					\$2,124.00	MYOB Yearly Subscription					
					\$98.88	Courier to NROSG					
					\$517.88	RFB14 Car service					
	\$322.30					Kitchen Supplies					
	\$322.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,243.17	•					

SPREADSHEET	\$ 3,899.93
STATEMENT	\$ 100,000.00
DIFFERENCE	\$ 96,100.07
TO BE PAID	\$ 3,899.93



Supplier Payment History

Created: 17/04/2025 1:11 PM

Rural Fire Brigades Association

28 Fraser Road Araluen Qld 4570

Supplier Payment History

February 2025

ABN: 37 417 474 709 Email: om@rfbaq.org

						Email: om@rfbaq.or
Cheque No.	Chq Date	PO No.	Date	Supplier's Inv. No.	Purchase Total Amt	Amount Applied
AgentMail						
23471	20/02/2025	00020219	6/02/2025	INV - 11794	\$549.28	\$549.28
					Total for Payment 23471:	\$549.28
Australia Post	t					
23426	5/02/2025	00020217	3/02/2025	INV - 1013766138	\$2,704.54	\$2,704.54
					Total for Payment 23426:	\$2,704.54
Department o	of Housing an	d Public Wo	orks			
23424	5/02/2025	00020216	1/02/2025	INV - 181351	\$4,932.28	\$4,932.28
					Total for Payment 23424:	\$4,932.28
EFEX						
23423	5/02/2025	00020215	31/01/2025	INV - II02430289	\$5,182.58	\$5,182.58
					Total for Payment 23423:	\$5,182.58
Flick Anticime	ex Pty Ltd					
23425	5/02/2025	00020218	1/02/2025	INV - 410219599C	\$32.02	\$32.02
					Total for Payment 23425:	\$32.02
Harvey Noma	n - Electrical					
23427	5/02/2025	00020142	18/09/2024	INV - 5433236	\$4,425.00	\$2,212.50
					Total for Payment 23427:	\$2,212.50
Impact Office	Supplies					
23469	20/02/2025	00020224	13/02/2025	INV - 628322	\$184.90	\$184.90
					Total for Payment 23469:	\$184.90
John Madill T	oyota					
23472	20/02/2025	00020222	13/02/2025	INV - RID1100293	\$141,100.00	\$141,100.00
					Total for Payment 23472:	\$141,100.00
PowerConnex	Pty Ltd					
23422	5/02/2025	00020214	1/02/2025	INV - 119714	\$38.80	\$38.80
					Total for Payment 23422:	\$38.80
Telstra Limite	d					
BP040325	20/02/2025	00020223	17/02/2025	K076041061-8	\$4,644.95	\$4,644.95
				Tota	al for Payment BP040325:	\$4,644.95
The One Stop	Insurance Bro	okers				
23468	20/02/2025	00020220	10/02/2025	INV - 00212663	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00
					Total for Payment 23468:	\$4,400.00
23470	20/02/2025	00020221	13/02/2025	INV - 00212786	\$1,156.00	\$1,156.00



Created: 17/04/2025 1:11 PM

Rural Fire Brigades Association

28 Fraser Road Araluen Qld 4570

ABN: 37 417 474 709 Email: om@rfbaq.org

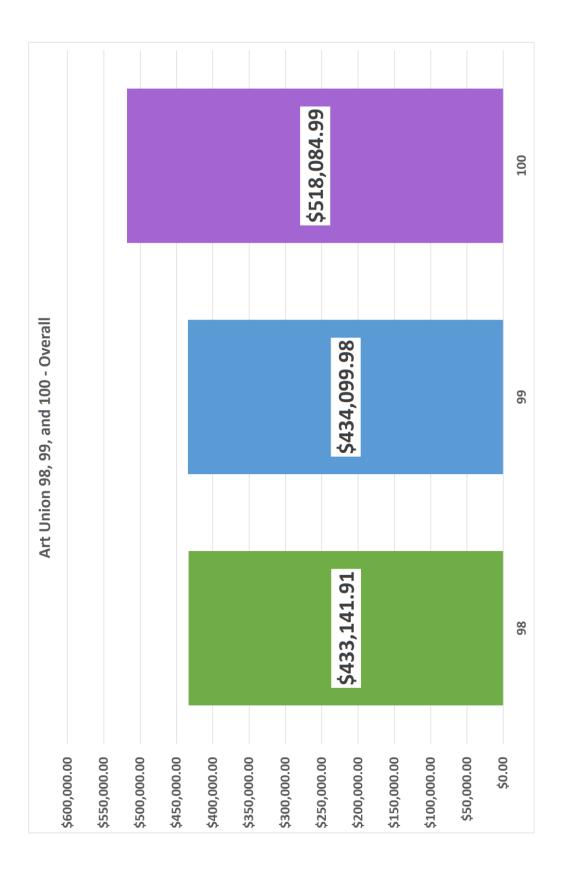
Supplier Payment History

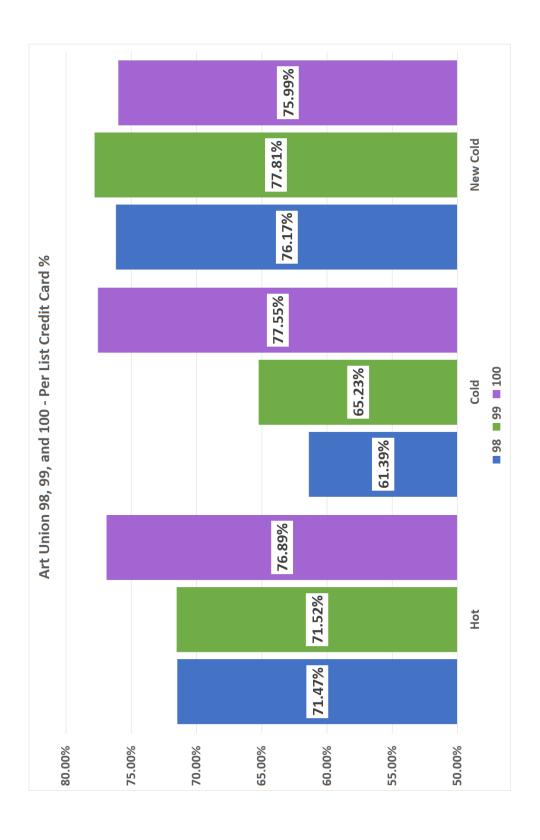
February 2025

Cheque No. Chq Date	PO No.	Date	Supplier's Inv. No.	Purchase Total Amt	Amount Applied		
			Total for Payment 23470: \$1,156.0		\$1,156.00		



Art Union Comparison Graphs











Art Union 100 Financial Return



Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation

Form 3A

Charitable and Non-Profit Gaming Act 1999 (S.82)

FINANCIAL RETURN FOR **CATEGORY 3 GAMING LICENCE**

Licence Details

Licensee No:

Licensee:

14662

RURAL FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION - QUEENSLAND INC

Estimated

App/Licence No: App/Licence Type:

App/Licence Status:

90957

CATEGORY 3 GAMING LICENCE

Issued

Dates

Commencement:

14-Oct-2024

Drawing:

28-Jan-2025

Due:

28-Mar-2025

Received:

Expense Summary for Art Union No:

100

Actual

Retail Value

\$120,000

Gross Proceeds:

\$600,000 396,071.00

\$300,000 278, 509.07

Expenses: Prize Cost:

\$100,000 (34,673.33

Profit/Loss:

\$200,000 (17,111.40)

Net %:

33.33% -4.32%

I certify that the Charitable and Non-Profit Gaming Act 1999, Charitable and Non-Profit Gaming Regulation 1999 and Charitable and Non-Profit Rule 2010, pertaining to the conduct of a Category 3 Gaming Licence have been complied with and the particulars contained in this return are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of President, Secretary or Treasurer



GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

FOR MAY 2025 GENERAL MEETING



Written Report

Last year when we met in Mackay was the time of full realisation of the disaster that the bad legislation and restructure of the QFD would bring.

From the 1^{st of} July 2024 the brigades started to experience the full disfunction of the legislation and structure.

Combined with the current Commissioner's refusal to meet with the RFBAQ, his attempt to hide the "stats', which are the raw figures of how you measure failure, from the RFBAQ and brigades, the promotion of a Rural Fires Council to exclude and stifle other forms of consultation for the betterment of brigades and a litany of other targeted anti RFBAQ actions by the senior management of the QFD; 2024 was a tough year. Right up there with the Blue Card implementation fiasco.

Now we are in 2025 and following the change of government I am starting to feel a growing confidence that there is a will both in Government and amongst brigades and RFSQ Staff to get this mess under control.

Can rural fire turn around?

Yes.

The fire department is just a thing; a tool, created to provide support to those who do hazard reduction burning, preparation, community education and response to fire and other operational incidents. If the tool isn't working or is not fit for purpose, then manufacture one that does.

The difficultly is the social license the fire department has inherited on the backs of generations of firefighters, that makes government reticent to instigate fundamental change.

Separate - Rural Fire and Fire & Rescue are sociologically different.

The Queensland Industrial Relations Commission decision B/2009/17 found that:

The Bench accepts that a rural fire officer then, and now, has a separate and identifiable area of activity and has different responsibilities and accountabilities to service as a non-rural fire officer. In this regard we have

accepted the evidence of Messrs Cifuentes and Edwards to the extent that the major differences between rural and urban operations are clear –

these include, for rural officers:

- fire prevention;
- the type of fire;
- building inspections;
- the volunteer bases of the Rural Fire Service;
- conflict resolution;
- funding;



- use of private equipment by volunteers;
- working times;
- negotiation between interest groups; and
- the fire warden system.

and for urban operations:

response and training.

Give Rural Fire separation; return the Rural Fires Board that gives non-operational direction to the Chief Officer and oversees policy and budget.

Have Rural Fire report directly to the Fire Minister with an established place in Government and separate legislation.

Ensure that Rural Fire has access to adequate funding. Volunteers defending 93% of Queensland is the best return on investment that any Government can get.

In the interim, and to commence this journey, appoint a Director General to control the QFD, with F&R and RFSQ reporting to them.

Have the Director General investigate and audit the waste and other historical allegations in the QFD. This would require minimal change to the current legislation and provide the expertise and resources required to write the necessary draft legislation to create the Rural Fire Statutory Authority.

So please don't be glum as the RFBAQ has never given up on trying to provide the best environment for local brigades to flourish and meet their community needs and we may be moving to providing that for them for the first time since 1990.