



U.F.B.A

UNITED FIRE BRIGADES'
ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND

MINUTES - DAY ONE

Official opening of the 139th Annual Conference of the United Fire Brigades' Association (Inc) held at the Pullman Hotel in Auckland on Friday 27 October 2017.

Tangata Whenua welcomed the delegation to Conference with a Mihi Whakatau. On behalf of delegates, Vice President Joe Manihera responded with return greetings. He was supported by a waiata performed by a group of delegates.

The Conference adjourned for lunch at 12:32 hours.

At 13:31 hours President Kittelty officially declared open the 139th Annual Conference of the United Fire Brigades' Association.

Blessing over the Conference

The delegates remain standing while the Anglican Bishop of Auckland Ross Bay (DCFO of Auckland Operational Support) gave the blessing.

President Kittelty then welcomed the delegates to Conference, including dignitaries Patron Dame Margaret Bazley LHM, Past Presidents of the UFBA, Board Chairman Rick Braddock, UFBA Board members, Chief Executive Officer Bill Butzbach, Chair of the Fire and Emergency NZ Board Hon Paul Swain, Fire and Emergency NZ Board members, Fire and Emergency NZ Chief Executive Rhys Jones, Fire and Emergency NZ National Commander Urban Paul McGill, and Fire and Emergency NZ National Manager Rural Kevin O'Connor.

President Kittelty thanked the Tangata Whenua from Ngati Whatua for their welcome, and to Anglican Bishop of Auckland Ross Bay (DCFO of Auckland Operational Support) for the blessing of conference.

Theme of Conference

The theme of the 2017 Conference is "Leading Together" - a crucial aspect in ensuring UFBA, FRFANZ and our members continue their major contributions to building safe, sustainable communities.

Host Committee Welcome

Glenn Teal, Chair of the 2017 Conference Organising Committee welcomed the delegates to Auckland and acknowledged the enormous amount of work the Organising Committee (Auckland Operational Support) and UFBA Events Team had put in to organising the Conference and associated events, and thanked them for their contribution.

Obituaries

Vice President Joe Manihera read the official obituary list which was followed by a moment's silence in respect for those who had passed away during the year:

Rank	First Name	Surname	Brigade
Operational Support Senior Firefighter	William	Clark	Ashburton VFB
Firefighter	Michael	Evans	Balclutha VFB
Retired Third Officer	Ross	Gerken	Balfour VFB
Retired Firefighter	Bruce	Parry	Balfour VFB
Senior Firefighter	Jamie	Brew	Beachlands VFB
Retired Senior Firefighter	Alexander	Mullinder	Bluff VFB
Qualified Senior Firefighter	James	Maaka	Burnham Military Camp Fire Brigade
	Gordon	Clode	Carterton VFB
Retired Third Officer	Trevor	Hicks	Carterton VFB
Brigade Life Honorary Member	Warren	Buckeridge	Carterton VFB
Retired Firefighter	Gary	Wisdom	Cobden VFB
Retired Chief Fire Officer	Kevin	Hayes	Cromwell VFB
Operational Support	Andrea	Greig	Feilding VFB
Retired Firefighter	Kenneth	Betty	Foxton VFB
Retired Deputy Chief Fire Officer	John	Read	Foxton VFB
Station Officer	Russ	Cochrane	Hahei VFB
Chief Fire Officer	Bill	Tims	Haumoana VFB
	George	Garrett	Heriot VFB
Retired Firefighter	Desmond	Millar	Hikurangi VFB
Retired Chief Fire Officer	Neil	Wells	Huia VFB
Retired Operational Support	Bev	Scott	Huia/Laingholm VFB
Retired Firefighter	Maurice (Sonny)	Brownie	Johnsonville
Operational Support	Keith	Price	Katikati VFB
Operational Support	Allan (Snow)	Bray	Kaitaia VFB
Station Officer	Ian	Ferrier	Kawerau
	Ewan	Matheson	Leigh VFB
	Phillip (Phil)	Halliday	Levin VFB
Retired Senior Station Officer	Maurice	Reynolds	Lower Hutt
Retired Firefighter	John	Ironside	Luggate VFB
Retired Fire Chief Officer	Russell	Lush	Lumsden VFB
	Vivian (Viv)	Hata	Mangakino VFB
	Ian	Farqharson	Mangakino VFB
Station Officer	Grant	Goately	Mataura VFB
Retired Firefighter	Ian Joseph	Darwen	Motueka VFB
Retired Station Officer	Ron	Beardsley	New Brighton VFB
Retired Sub-Officer	Jack	Rouse	New Brighton VFB
Retired Firefighter	Edward (Eddie)	Clark	Omakau VFB
Retired Station Officer	John	Bulfin	Outram VFB
Chief Fire Officer	Peter	Davies	Pahiatua VFB
Retired Officer-in-Charge	Ron	McKubre	Porirua
	Alexander (Alex)	Carter	Pukekohe
Senior Firefighter	Ray	Hopkins	Ravensbourne VFB
Retired Firefighter	Peter	Hill	Rolleston VFB
Retired Deputy Chief Fire Officer	Stephen	Philip	Rolleston VFB
Retired Fire Officer	Jack	Sheahan	Silverstream VFB

	Colin	Brown	Stokes Valley VFB
	Brian	Bell	Taupo
Retired Deputy Chief Fire Officer	Roger	McQuilliam	Te Anau VFB
Retired Firefighter	Des	Walsh	Te Aroha VFB
	Walter (Wally)	Ryan	Tirau VFB
	Grant	Halvorsen	Titahi Bay VFB
Senior Firefighter	Stanislav (Stan)	Hejl	Turangi VFB
Retired Firefighter	James	Mahon	Waikaia VFB
Operational Support	Ian	Thorpe	Waikanae VFB
Retired Station Officer/Patron	Joe	Barton	Waiuku VFB
Qualified Firefighter	John	Robinson	Waiuku VFB
Retired Senior Station Officer	George	McKenzie	Waiwera VFB
Retired Control Room Operator	Malcolm	Francis	Wellington
Station Officer	Michael	Heaphy	Wellington
	Angus (Gus) McFarlane	Duthie	Wellington
Retired Deputy Chief Fire Officer	Len	Gerard	Winton VFB
Retired Deputy Chief Fire Officer	Errol (John)	Spackman	Woodville VFB
Chief Fire Officer	Ian	Rodgers	Wyndham VFB
Fire Commissioner/UFBA LHM	Frank	Hardy	QFSM, OBE

New Zealand Honours 2017

Vice President Joe Manihera congratulated those mentioned in the list of recent Royal Honours.

New Year's Honours 2017 – Queen's Service Medals

Maurice Doughty Keith Feek Paul Lyall John May Francis McGuire

Queen's Birthday Honours 2017

Queen's Service Order

Paul Baxter

The Queen's Service Medal

Bruce Didham Brian Dobson Karl Lapwood Michael O'Neill Miles Shelley

Introduction of UFBA Officers and Board

President Kittelty introduced the Board and Vice President as follows:

Chairman Rick Braddock	Deputy Chairman Glenn Williams
Director Russell Anderson	Director Judith Stanley
Director Scott Miller	Vice President Joe Manihera
Chief Executive Officer Bill Butzbach	

The following Past Presidents were welcomed to Conference:

Mark Adie	Russell Anderson	Graeme Booth
Alan Burgess	Alan Cockburn	Richard Davidson
Ross Ditmer	Merv George	John Grenfell
Peter Guard	Brian Hunter	Colin Kitchen
Ian Lindsay	Dave McFarlane	Chris Price
Brian Schimanski	Erich Speck	Garry Stanley
Bryan Styles	Ray Topia	Brian Watters

The following UFBA Life Honorary Members were welcomed to Conference:

Dame Margaret Bazley Pat Fitzell Ric Carlyon Peter Lockery Peter Drummond Nigel Lilley

Apologies

The President called for apologies. The following apologies were noted:

The Right Honourable Bill English
Hon Tracey Martin
Past President Don Hallett
Past President Ray Brokenshire
Past President Lex Calder
Past President Robert Morriss
Past President Barry Bridges
LHM Don Roper

Mayor Phil Goff
Past President Brian Stanley
Past President Max Robinson
Past President Pat Davidsen
Past President Daryl Forrest
LHM Sandy Lawson
LHM Alan Procter

MOTION: That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: T Michie, Balclutha
Seconded: G Foster, Wellington Provincial Association

The Motion was **CARRIED**.

Confirmation of the 2016 AGM minutes

MOTION: That the minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting are confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Moved: W Maslin, Ashburton
Seconded: N Lilley, Rolleston

The Motion was **CARRIED**

Election of Scrutineers

MOTION: That Past Presidents Brian Hunter, Bryan Styles, Ross Ditmer, Merv George and Peter Guard be elected as scrutineers for the duration of the Conference and their decisions to be taken as final.

Moved: B Schimanski, Pleasant Point
Seconded: K Curtis, Matamata

The Motion was **CARRIED**.

Address from Chair of the Fire and Emergency NZ Board

President Kittelty welcomed Hon Paul Swain to the stage who thanked the delegation for the opportunity to speak, and acknowledged the dignitaries in attendance.

Mr Swain reflected on the past 12 months with the transition to Fire and Emergency NZ. He then spoke of the future shape of the organisation, looking forward to the year 2020 and beyond.

President's Annual Report

President Kittelty addressed the delegates. He spoke of the honour and privilege having served as President for the past year. During his address, the President reflected on the huge amount of work UFBA has completed over the past year towards the Fire Service Reform. Highlights included:

- Working with the Fire Review team to influence the principles under which the current reforms are driven
- Working within the Transition Team to co-design all policy and initiatives relating to volunteers
- Championing the co-design of Day 1 Command and Control policy
- Bringing Urban and Rural together, by working closely with FRFANZ
- Working in collaboration with the Associated Agencies
- Enhanced communication with membership

The President closed his address by acknowledging George Verry, the former Chief Executive who led UFBA into the strong position it is in today. The President’s address ended with applause from delegates.

MOTION: That the President’s report be adopted as circulated.

Moved: UFBA President
Seconded: K Austin, Kaingaroa

The Motion was **CARRIED**.

Report of the Board of Directors including Financial Statements

Chair Rick Braddock welcomed dignitaries present, and gave the following insights:

- 2017 was a landmark year for the UFBA with significant successes.
- Fire and Emergency NZ legislation was passed with a plank of a “better deal for volunteers”
- Tomorrow UFBA will vote on a merger with FRFANZ – representing 14,000 firefighters
- UFBA gave strategic and tactical advice to Fire and Emergency NZ over five workstreams to influence policies and regulations
- Mr Braddock acknowledged the former Chief Executive, George Verry for his work over nine years, saying he has no doubt that without George the new legislation would never have made it through the House
- The value of the work of volunteers is not reflected in the annual report – an economic value of \$530 million
- Mr Braddock welcomed new Minister Tracey Martin, new Chief Executive Officer Bill Butzbach, new Director Scott Miller and new Fire and Emergency NZ Chief Executive Officer Rhys Jones
- UFBA and FRFANZ seek to play a constructive role through the integration phase of Fire and Emergency NZ
- Our aim is to position our organisation as a trusted adviser to Fire and Emergency NZ and ensure volunteers are closely involved

MOTION: That the UFBA Annual Report and Financial Statements be adopted as circulated.

Moved: D McGillen, Timaru
Seconded: R Palmer, Diamond Harbour

The Motion was **CARRIED**.

Patron’s Address

President Kittelty welcomed UFBA Patron Dame Margaret Bazley to address the delegation.

Dame Margaret took to the stage, acknowledged the dignitaries present and expressed her pride in attending as Patron. Dame Margaret said the UFBA can be very proud of what has been achieved over the last year. This Conference provides an opportunity to reflect on the success of the past year. She said UFBA was very fortunate to have such strong leadership at this time. She stated that now is not the time to sit back and be complacent, and to use the achievements as a platform for the future. The challenge is to ensure every intent of the legislation is implemented.

Dame Margaret concluded her address with best wishes for a successful Conference, which was met with applause from the delegates.

Benevolent Fund Report

President Kittelty invited Alan Cockburn, Chair of the Benevolent Fund to address Conference.

Mr Cockburn said that in the last year the trustees dealt with 19 applications and made ex-gratia grants of \$53,000 to members in need, and \$8,000 to six members following the Edgcumbe flood. With support of the then Fire Service Commission, the fund also dispersed \$96,750 to 77 applications from members affected by the Kaikoura earthquake.

Mr Cockburn offered special thanks to Jim Ryburn and Paki Johnson for their work on the ground providing the recommendations for the trustees relating to the Kaikoura earthquake. Mr Cockburn also thanked Past President Garry Stanley who visited Edgcumbe following the floods to assess the needs of the members there.

Mr Cockburn referred to the revised Trust Deed that is being put forward for ratification at this year's Conference. The aim of the revised deed is to bring the processes in line with current legal wording and practice.

Mr Cockburn acknowledged the former Chief Executive George Verry for his wise counsel during his tenure, and welcomed Bill Butzbach to the role. He then thanked the Benevolent Fund Trustees for their contribution over the past year, and to UFBA President Alan Kittelty, Chief Executive Officer Bill Butzbach and Membership Support Coordinator Jane Davie for their efficient support.

MOTION: That the Benevolent Fund report and financial statements be adopted as circulated.

Moved: A Cockburn, Past President
Seconder: D Sayer, Sumner

The Motion was **CARRIED**.

Appointment of UFBA Auditors

MOTION: That Grant Thornton be appointed as the UFBA Auditor for the 2017-2018 financial year.

Moved: J Haig, Clyde
Seconded: S Sayer, Foxton

The Motion was **CARRIED**.

Confirmation of Membership Subscriptions

MOTION: That UFBA membership subscription fees remain the same for the 2017 financial year.

Moved: K Shea, Stoke
Seconded: T Carew, Eketahuna

The Motion was **CARRIED**.

Review of 2016 Conference Remits

President Kittelty gave a review of the Remits passed at the October 2016 Conference:

Remit #1 – UFBA Representation for Individual Brigade Members

Mover: J Haig, Clyde

Seconder: S Shaw, Cromwell

MOTION: That the UFBA alter its Constitution and Rules to enable the Association to be in a position to represent individual members of its constituent brigades should the need arise.

After discussion, the Motion was **CARRIED**.

President Kittelty advised that the UFBA Board has submitted a remit that will address this, and will be presented at this conference.

Remit #2 – Cost of Service Honours

Mover: K Andrew, Devonport

Seconded: G Teal, Auckland Operational Support

MOTION: That the UFBA reviews the cost and supply of medals and honours, with consideration of putting the supply of honours out to tender, providing that the quality and materials remain the same, or better, as current honours.

After discussion, the Motion was **CARRIED**.

Chief Executive Officer Bill Butzbach addressed the delegates and confirmed that this review has taken place. UFBA is satisfied that the current supplier offers the best value for money for silver and gold products, and that the mould casts are being reset.

Remit #3 – New Zealand Fire Service Levy on Insurances

Mover: D Neilson, Picton

Seconded: J McMillian, Seddon

MOTION: That the UFBA request a discount or waiver for New Zealand Fire Service members for the New Zealand Fire levy on all insurance plans.

After discussion, the Motion was **WITHDRAWN**.

Remit #4 – Gratuity Payments

Mover: D Neilson, Picton

Seconded: J McMillian, Seddon

MOTION: That the UFBA look into increasing gratuity payments for resigning members.

After discussion, the Motion was **WITHDRAWN**.

Voting Numbers

The voting numbers were confirmed as:

Delegates	251
Proxies	19
TOTAL	270

Required to elect	136
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The Conference adjourned at 15.53 hours, to resume again at 08:00 hours on Saturday the 28th October 2017.