

**MINUTES OF AMWU VICTORIAN STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 251 QUEENSBERRY STREET,
CARLTON SOUTH
COMMENCING AT 8:00am, Wed 5th of April 2023**

President Bro. Mick Terry presided and declared the meeting open at 8.05 am.

STATE COUNCILORS PRESENT:

Bro T. Mavromatis	Bro. A. Kane	Bro A. Anderson	Bro M. Terry	Bro. N. Mitchell
Bro D. Rozario	Bro. M. Bull	Bro C. Ormsby	Bro J. Purves	
Bro Z. Cimbora	Sis M. Sikk	Bro D. Andrews	Bro V. Pepi	
Bro S. Wise	Bro L. Malgeri	Bro C. Brown	Bro T. Piccolo	
Bro P. Lavery	Bro M. Cannon	Sis. M. Owen	Bro. R. Balantyne	

STATE COUNCILORS APOLOGIES:

Bro P. Springer	Sis. N. Nam	Bro. M. Kennedy		
Bro D. Fairchild	Bro. P. McCartney	Bro. M. Green		
Bro. E. Toro	Bro. M. Green			

Observer and minute taker: Tanya Kryvonosova

DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST.

State Secretary Tony Mavromatis reminds State Council members of their obligations as “Officers” under the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 to disclose all material personal interests that may arise with their union role as an elected Official to representative bodies of the AMWU.

Declaration forms are available throughout these proceedings for those Officers requiring to make a new disclosure.

‘State Council notes no Declarations were made for the February 1st, 2023, State Council meeting.’

‘The minutes of the State Council held on February 1st, 2023, be endorsed.

Moved: Tony Anderson

Seconded: Jamie Purves

Carried

‘The minutes of the State Admin meeting held on February 16th, 2023, be endorsed.’

Moved: Tony Anderson

Seconded: Noel Mitchell

Carried

STATE SECRETARY’S REPORT

• **Recent Victorian Floods Victims – Special Grant and Hardship Fund**

The State Secretary reported that following recent floods in regional Victoria, he received 10 applications regarding the provision of financial support for members, who have had their homes

affected by the recent floods. State Secretary noted that under Rule 7E3 Victorian State Council may provide special grants to members, where it is satisfied the member is suffering distressed circumstances, but such a grant shall not exceed \$ 1, 000 per member without approval of National Council. There were 10 applications presented for State Council's consideration, all of them satisfy the criteria of financiality and evidence provided (photos, reports)

RESOLUTION:

"State Council notes the report and resolves to approve the special grant of up to \$1,000 for 10 members, as presented by the State Secretary and further, in accordance with Part B of the Hardship Fund policy, that \$ 403 be provided from the Hardship Fund for each member, with a balance of \$597 for each member to be allocated to the Victorian Branch."

Moved: Noel Mitchell

Seconded: Michelle Owen

Carried

- **Pascoe Vale Panthers, North Sunshine Eagles & Melton South FC sponsorship arrangements**

The State Secretary reported on Memorandum of Understanding signed for 2023 sponsorship arrangements, which are now in place for all 3 clubs. State Secretary reported on "AMWU Sponsorship challenge" competition between two sponsored teams, he recently attended to support community clubs, plans to organise AMWU promotional stands and apprenticeship information boards, as well as information about "AMWU Women in Trade" project to be given to Women's Team in Pascoe Vale.

RESOLUTION:

"State Council notes the report, congratulates State Secretary on great work carried out with community clubs to promote AMWU and supports sponsorship arrangements in place for 2023 for all 3 club "

Moved: Noel Mitchell

Seconded: Daniel Andrews

Carried

- **Wage Increase for Officials and Officers – NSC resolution.**

The State Secretary reported, that in accordance with September NC decision to review the wage increase for Officials and Officers, NSC determines to recommend that a further salary increase of 2.3% apply from the first pay period of April 2023. The National Council calls on each State Council as good governance to schedule reviews of the budgets and of the work and performance of all employees against the State budget.

RESOLUTION:

"State Council notes the report and calls upon State Secretary, as part of good governance to schedule reviews of the budget in line with implementation of the Branch operational plans and schedule regular reviews of the work and performance of the employees against the State Budget."

Moved: Steven Wise
Seconded: Daniel Andrews

Carried

- **APAN – APHEDA Study Tour – Palestine (July – August 2023)**

The State Secretary reported that Victorian Branch has nominated Bro David Fox to participate in the Study Tour to Palestine from 29 July to 4 August 2023.

RESOLUTION:

“State Council notes the report and further endorses Bro David Fox nomination to participate in the Study Tour to Palestine from 29 July to 4 August 2023”.

Moved: Michelle Owen
Seconded: Noel Mitchell

Carried

- **IUF 28th Congress and related meetings 10 -16 June, Geneva**

The State Secretary reported on Bro Chris Spindler to be nominated to attend IUF 28th Congress and Food Industry related meetings on 10 -16 June in Geneva, Switzerland.

RESOLUTION:

“State Council notes the report and further endorses nomination of Bro Chris Spindler”.

Moved: Tony Anderson
Seconded: Michelle Owen

Carried

- **Surf Coast Voice to Parliament Forum – Sponsorship request received.**

The State Secretary reported on the request received for the upcoming Forum on the 27th of April to raise awareness amongst the Surf Coast Community to help people to understand the impact the Voice to Parliament will have for the community. The State Secretary requested the State Council’s consideration for sponsorship of the event.

MOTION:

“State Council Notes the report and endorses sponsorship request for up to \$ 300 “

Moved: Jamie Purves
Seconded: Noel Mitchel

Carried

- **Williamstown Dockyard – Industrial Opportunity**

State Secretary reported on the proposed sale of Williamstown dockyard as a major opportunity to rebuild Victoria's heavy engineering and advanced manufacturing capacity, generating thousands of direct and indirect jobs and providing hundreds of apprenticeships and traineeships to people in Western suburbs, who have been hit particularly hard by declining employment over the last several years. AMWU is leading a campaign to raise awareness and get members behind, State Secretary has now called on numerous federal and state MPs to join and support the course of purchasing the dockyards to secure manufacturing jobs. In line with this commitment, we are also in the process of organising parliamentary briefings for the upcoming parliament sitting.

MOTION:

"State Council notes the report and calls upon State Secretary to continue with the campaign "

Moved: Daniel Andrews

Seconded: Tony Anderson

Carried

- **Vale Frank Cherry**

The State Secretary reported on sad news received by the Branch and funeral service attended by lots of Frank's devoted comrades and proposed for the State Council Chambers to be named Frank Cherry's Chambers to commemorate his commitment to the Union movement. Victorian Branch will have a Memorial service for Frank Cherry, the service will be held at Trades Hall on the 26th of April 2023.

MOTION:

"State Council notes the report, pays its tribute to Vale Frank Cherry and further endorses to rename State Council Chambers to Frank Cherry Chambers in his memory."

Moved: Noel Mitchell

Seconded: Andy Kane

Carried

- **Protect insurance draft report.**

State Secretary reported on draft report received from Protect. According to the report – overall Protect is providing a high level of benefits at a reasonable price, in terms of the core weekly benefits and cost. The State Secretary has looked into identifying key differences between policies in respect of the draft report received. Considering that we already have a lot of members covered by the Protect policy, Vic Branch of AMWU has now received an offer to be a policy holder.

MOTION:

"State Council notes the report and calls upon State Secretary to sign and become a policy holder for our members, once we get it right and the State Council is satisfied with the policy to be endorsed "

Moved: Daniel Andrews

Seconded: Noel Mitchell

Carried

- **Delegates Forum 22 March 2023**

State Secretary reported on a very successful Delegates Forum and continuous positive feedback, we have been receiving from the delegates and Log of Claims as a main resolution of the Forum included several important items such as 18% increase over 3 years , secure jobs, casualization clause, allowable matter clause , IR , OHS, Bye Australian made products , apprentices , contractors, delegates , The Crossing project sustainability by insuring that \$1 per member per week is included in EBAs.

RESOLUTION:

“State Council notes the report and endorses the Log of Claims as per Delegates Forum resolution “

Moved: Jamie Purves

Seconded: Noel Mitchell

Carried

- **Increase in OHS course cost.**

The State Secretary reported on consideration to increase the cost of the OHS Initial course from \$900 to \$950, with the cost of the Refresher course cost to remain the same \$350 , the decision is made based on the comparison and recommendation report provide by OHS Unit.

MOTION:

“State Council further endorses the increase in the Initial OHS course cost.”

Moved: Michelle Owen

Seconded: Tony Anderson

Carried

- **VISY Shepparton Dispute**

The State Secretary provided a verbal report on VISY Shepparton dispute going on for almost 10 weeks now.

MOTION:

“State Council notes the report and express solidarity with VISY workers struggle.”

Moved: Steven Wise

Seconded: Michelle Owen

Carried

- **Consideration to employ a new Regional Organiser**

The State Secretary reported, that following the report provided by Food Industry Coordinator to State Steering Committee re: situation at major food sites, no delegates structure in place and efforts to get union standards up – it was decided to allocate an additional resource and employ another regional organiser on delegation. The State Secretary and State Food Coordinator have now met with a potential candidate.

MOTION:

“State Council notes the report and further endorses the delegation of another regional organiser in Northern Central Victoria to assist the Branch, improve representation for members and support the officials. The new regional organiser on delegation is to be funded from the off budget Wageguard Fund.”

Moved: Michelle Owen

Seconded: Steven Wise

Carried

- **Victorian Branch – General Protection Claim**

The State Secretary reported on NSC has endorsed the actions of the National Secretary and Victorian State Secretary in resolving the general protections claim, submitted by a former employee, who was made redundant. Due to the confidential nature of the claim, he is legally bound not to discuss the details of the settlement, however considering that he is presenting this matter at the State council he must disclose that the Victorian Branch would cover all legal costs occurred, whilst the National Union will cover the quantum of the settlement. This item was also presented at the Administrative Committee meeting on the 16th of February 2023, with Sate Admin resolving to call upon State Secretary to proceed with actions required and endorsed by NSC.

RESOLUTION:

“State Council notes the report and further endorses State Secretary to proceed with the actions required.”

Moved: Noel Mitchell

Seconded: Daniel Anderson

Carried

- **State Women’s Committee Resolution for State Council**

State Secretary reported on the resolution received from SWC to consider negotiating a stronger provision for casual workers – “ A casual paid FDVL will be calculated on the average hours worked in the 12 months prior to taking leave , where they have worked less that this period, it will be calculated on the average hours worked , this included any shift allowances over this period or the rostered work for the period they took leave , whichever is greater.

MOTION:

"State Council notes the report."

Moved: Mick Bull

Seconded: Tony Piccolo

Departing Official's/Organisers, New Official's/Organisers/Regrades/Delegations/ Probations

- **The AMWU Victorian Branch would like to thank departing Staff and Officials**

MOTION:

"State Council would like to thank departing Staff member for his efforts and wishes him all the best in his future endeavors."

Bro Yasser Jafari, termination due to unsatisfactory probation, effective 14 February 2023

- **The AMWU Victorian Branch would like to welcome the new Staff below.**

MOTION:

"State Council welcomes new staff Sis Christine Dosenko New Receptionist/Clerical Assistant, commenced on 27 February 2023 on Grade 3 , staff rates with a 3 months' probation and Bro Gurpreet Singh , new Organiser on delegation , commenced 27 February 2023 with a 6 months' probation period on Level 1 funded from the Promotional Fund "

Moved: Tony Anderson

Seconded: Noel Mitchell

Carried

- **Fixed Term appointments, probations update**

Bro Ron Smith, extension for 12 months effective from 9 February 2023

Bro Brian Paulding continue to be employed on delegation for up to 12 months, effective from 9 February 2023, subject to budget and policy.

Bro Luke Souvatzis successful probation, effective from 24 February 2023 continue employment subject to budget and policy.

Moved: Tony Piccolo

Seconded: Jamie Purves

Carried

- **Divisional Reports**

- ♦ Retired Members Report
- ♦ Women's Committee
- ♦ Assistant State Secretary Manufacturing
- ♦ Assistant State Secretary Print Industry
- ♦ Vehicle Industry Co-Ordinator
- ♦ Food Industry Co—Ordinator
- ♦ OHS Report
- ♦ Youth Committee Report
- ♦ Industrial Officers Reports
- ♦ Organising Unit
- ♦ Communications Report
- ♦ District Committees Reports

The State Council notes the reports.

Moved: Tony Anderson

Seconded: Vince Pepi

Carried

Gift Declarations 2022

Nothing Declared for this meeting.

VTHC Agenda Items

No agenda items for this meeting

Supplementary Items

- **Bendigo District Committee motion to State Conference / State Council**

Bendigo District Committee moves that State Conference /State Council make provision for regional delegates and health and safety representatives to attend the upcoming delegates forums via Zoom, coordinated through their respective Trade Halls.

MOTION:

“State Council notes the motion, but calls upon State Secretary/ Steering Committee Representative to investigate further by attending the next district committee meeting and assure members that AMWU will bear the cost for delegates to come in person, next Bendigo district committee meeting is to be put in State Secretary diary “

Moved: Tony Anderson

Seconded: Noel Mitchell

Carried

- **Emergency transport benefit claim for \$1,927.00 received for State Council special consideration.**

State Secretary reported on Emergency Transport Benefit claim received for Daniel Saville – Moana, member since 22 August 2012, member was nonfinancial during the time of the claim due to 2 direct debit rejections, total amount owing \$82.98, the member had a good financial history and has no previous direct debit rejections. so, it is possible he may have not received notifications of those rejections. State Secretary seeks approval for member to proceed with he claim for ambulance cover cost through Cover Force.

RESOLUTION:

“State Council notes the report and resolves to proceed with approval for the claim submitted”.

Moved: Lou Malgeri

Seconded: Steven Wise

Carried

- **2023 State Conference**

The Victorian State Conference will be held on the 10 & 11 July 2023, due to the refurbishment of the building expected in this period, the new suitable venues needs to be found.

MOTION:

“State Council notes the report and calls upon State Secretary to organise and arrange a suitable venue for the State Conference”.

Moved: Lou Malgeri

Seconded: Daniel Andrews

Carried

- **Union Shopper**

The State Secretary reported on the 6-month trial agreement for our members and encouraged everyone to use Union Shopper and provide feedback.

MOTION:

State Council notes the report “

- **Joint ETU/AMWU stand on restriction of outdoor recreation activities.**

The State Secretary reported on numerous calls and emails he has received from the members to clarify AMWU position on this issue and expressing their concern re: working class getting affected by the recent decisions of the State government. He reported on “Outdoor activists’ group”

established by ETU and him attending one of the meetings. The State Secretary appealed for State Councillors to stay tuned and provide any feedback on the ground and asked for State Council authority to organise a meeting for AMWU concerned members to further discuss possible solutions and actions.

Meeting Close 3.40 pm

[Next State Council](#)

July 5th , 2023 – 9 am

