



Website: <http://12fieldregiment.com>

**12 FIELD REGIMENT (VIETNAM) ASSOCIATION**  
(A Branch of the Royal Australian Artillery Association NSW Inc)

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at the Ingleburn RSL sub-Branch on 10/11/15**

**MINUTES**

**1. Opening and Welcome:**

The meeting commenced at 1400hrs with President Graham Floyd as Chairman. The Ode was recited.

**2. In Attendance and Apologies:**

Eleven members entitled to vote were present and the Chairman declared that a quorum had been achieved in accordance with the Rules. A list of attendees forms part of the record of this meeting.

Jim Jelish and Paul Raft representing the Association's auditors Austax, were in attendance and were welcomed by the Chairman.

Apologies were noted from the following members: Hugh Ritchie, Max Murray, Ian Ahearn, Nick Jans, Ian Macauley, Ian Ryan, Ross Bland, Rick Cranna, Larry D'Arcy, Bob Lowry, Ron Maher, Andy Forsdike, Chris Coape-Smith, Terry Lee, Neil Mangels, Dave Thomas, Geoff Weismantel, Don Tait, Graham Rylands.

The meeting was advised that Graham and Geoff were apologies due to illness, and the meeting wished them a speedy recovery.

**3. Minutes of AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2014:**

The Chairman advised that copies of the Minutes of the last AGM had previously been circulated to all members. He invited discussion and there being none, a motion to accept the Minutes was moved by John Ericsson and seconded by Charlie Hankin. **The motion was carried unanimously on show of hands.**

The Chairman then invited members to discuss any business arising from the Minutes. No matter was raised.

**4. President's Report:**

The Chairman noted that the President's Report 2014-15 had been previously circulated. The Chairman invited discussion and none ensued. A motion to accept the President's Report was put by John Beer and seconded by Laurie Bird. **The motion to accept the President's Report was carried unanimously on show of hands.**

**5. Treasurer's Financial Report:**

The Chairman noted that the Treasurer's Report had previously been circulated to members, and invited discussion. The Treasurer commented on the positive financial position achieved during the year, due principally to the Association's efforts to recover overdue fees – an exercise which had been very successful. The Treasurer also thanked Austax for agreeing to take on the role of the Association's Honorary Auditors.

There being no further discussion, Laurie Bird moved that the Financial Report be accepted and this was seconded by Dodger Noonan.

**The motion to accept the Treasurer's Financial Report was carried unanimously on show of hands.**

## **6. Auditor's Report:**

The Secretary reminded the meeting that the Notice of AGM had included an invitation for attendees to read a copy of the full Auditor's Report prior to the meeting. No-one had accepted this invitation.

The Treasurer read a summary of the Auditor's opinion which included a statement that, in the opinion of the Auditor, the Association's financial affairs had been conducted in accordance with legal requirements.

There was no further discussion.

## **7. Election of Office Bearers:**

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the two-year terms of all current committee members were not due to expire until the AGM in 2016, so therefore there were no elections due at this meeting.

## **8. Other Business:**

### **8.1 Resignation of Co-Patron Ross Bland.**

Tony Marshall raised the question of whether the Association should appoint a second Patron to replace Ross Bland. Discussion followed during which Laurie suggested a name of an existing member as a possible replacement. The Chairman reminded the meeting that previous discussions generally agreed that it was not necessary for an organisation our size to have more than one Patron.

Moved: John Ericsson Seconded: John Beer

**That the Association not appoint a second Patron, and continues with only one Patron until further notice.**

The motion was carried on the majority vote, 9 to 2.

### **8.2 Concern for the Future.**

Rob Costello expressed his concern for the longevity of the Association, bearing in mind that the majority of members will soon be over 70 years old.

The Treasurer reminded the meeting that the finances were in good shape. John Ericsson suggested the need for a plan for future distribution of funds and the Treasurer advised that any funds remaining in the event of a winding-up of the Association would go to the RAAA.

Discussion ensued, and the meeting generally agreed that there was no need to take special action at this stage. The Chairman requested that the Secretary prepare a discussion paper on the subject.

### **8.3 Future Quorums.**

The Treasurer expressed concern that it was still difficult to attain a quorum and noted that today's meeting had only 11 voting members – only one more than a quorum. He suggested that the Rules be changed to enable AGMs to be conducted by email and other electronic means. The Secretary was concerned that this might dis-enfranchise those members who do not have access to a computer. Laurie Bird recommended that the system be improved to enable better forecasting of apologies and attendances in advance.

It was agreed that the committee would explore options to improve the achievement of quorums in the future.

**8.4 Membership Fees.**

Laurie Bird suggested that it might be time to review member fees and increase the annual fee from \$15 to \$20. The meeting generally agreed that, in view of the Association's current healthy financial state, fees should remain unchanged.

Rob Costello reminded the meeting that the first tranche of the old Perpetual Members (about 90) will be due for renewal in August next year and that it is important that as many members as possible be convinced to retain their membership. He suggested that they might be offered a special deal of (say) another 10 years pre-paid term at a discounted rate.

**9. Close:**

The meeting closed at 14:35hrs.

Signed as a true and accurate record .....as approved at meeting of ...../...../.....