

REPORT TO THE CFS VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION

CFS Foundation Inc. - Year ended June 2015

Membership of the Board of the CFS Foundation

During 2014-15 year the members of the CFS Foundation Board were:

- Tom Philips AM, (Chair) Resigned August 2015
- Rob Styling, AFSM OAM (Deputy Chair) Para Group Officer - nominated by the CFS Volunteers Association. (CEO from July 2015)
- Greg Nettleton, the Chief Officer (CO) of the SA Country Fire Service
- Peter Venning, Mawson Group Officer – nominated by the CFS Volunteer Association.
- Chris Kennedy Director William Buck nominated by the Board
- Rob Snowdon General Manager SA Power Networks nominated by the Board (Chair from August 2015)
- Karen Raffan CEO Advantage SA nominated by the Board resigned April 2014
- Bryce Coombe, Managing Director, Clemenger BDDO nominated by the Board resigned May 2014
- Elizabeth Davis – Executive Officer of the CFS Foundation.

Financial

The Foundation currently holds a cash reserve of some \$1.1 million. The cash reserves are currently invested in interest-bearing accounts and the Board is currently considering an investment strategy that will provide better returns than we are currently receiving.

Following the Sampson Flat fire we received a significant number of donations directly as a result of our direct marketing campaign prior to this fire.

Most sponsorship received comes with a commitment to spend these funds in the area of training, development and equipment grants, not all of which is necessarily spent in the financial year the arrangement is made.

We often receive comments that when we do offer Programs in relation to specific sponsorship that people were not aware of it. These are always advertised widely to all Groups and Brigades and it would be appreciated if the grants applications could be promoted amongst the Volunteers Association for future applications, particularly in the areas core to the CFS Foundation which is looking after the welfare of CFS volunteers and responding to CFS volunteer needs to relieve distress and suffering from CFS related activities.

Foundation Structure

During the last two years the Foundation has relied on a part time Executive Officer and a part time Administrator with additional help from a small volunteer base in times of peak load such as the Sampson Flat fire.

The Board has agreed to appoint of a part time CEO from July 2015 to assist with the corporate governance of the Foundation. This will free up the Executive Officer to concentrate on the Foundations core business of networking and raising funds through developing the relationships with both existing and potential sponsors.

With the resignation of Tom Philips AM as Chairman Rob Snowden has been appointed Chairman of the Board

Summary of activities of the Foundation during 2014-15

- During the course of the year a further 8 Defibrillators were distributed to Brigades across the State, bring the total number donated to 52 with hopefully more to come this year.
- Vince Monterola took on the role as CFS Foundation Patron
- Conducted a Young Leaders Program
- Provided a number of Fellowships including attendance of 4 Volunteers at the recent AFAC Conference
- Developed a board Charter
- Conducted 2 major lotteries run by a third party provider with good success
- Continued the development of the corporate sponsor database.
- Made payments to the families of 2 volunteers who died on duty as well as providing ongoing support to the families as required.
- Made payments to 3 volunteers who lost their houses during the Sampson Flat fires

Summary of Activities Planned for 2015/16

- Redevelop the Foundation's website to enable better links to social media and better financial integration
- Recruit additional Board Members with appropriate and extensive business experience.
- Further develop the Friends of the CFS Foundation program
- Continue major promotional campaigns through all media to build the profile of the CFS Foundation especially during the Fire Danger Season
- Develop the Marketing Program for the Firestar Roses developed exclusively for the Foundation by Knights Roses
- Develop a new Strategic Plan
- Develop a "signature event" that is owned by the Foundation

The Board continues to focus attention on increasing our profile in the community to attract funding, and promote the cause of the Foundation amongst the CFS volunteers.