

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2007

LOCATION: Engineers Australia

Minutes by: J.A.Russell

Date: 4/12/2007

PRESENT

T.S. Lim (Woodside Energy)
Jim Russell (ICEweb)
David Bilsborough (Woodside Energy)
Allen Tighe (Seacove Systems)
Vince Derriman (MTL)
Brian van Bueren (Honeywell)
William Ramsay (Honeywell)
Sam Liew (Worley Parsons)
Mat Marcussen (Worley Parsons)
Catherine Moriarty (Schneider Electric)
Nick Sima (Pepperl & Fuchs)
Arasa Thanigai (Pepperl & Fuchs)
Tim Collins (CTech)
Stefan Berbece (Lycopodium)
Denis Bergemann
Vince Derriman (MTL)
Ian McLeod

APOLOGIES

John Ness (Woodside)
Duncan Turner (Apache Energy)
Mel Oliveri (Apprentices Australia)
Viv VanRensburg (Emerson Process Management)
Dean McNair (HIMA)
Mike Miller
Brenton Lynch-Rhodes (WPC)
Gordon Stevenson (Bechtel)
Kevin Barnes (MTL)

1. Matters Arising From Previous Minutes

The meeting was declared open at 5:00 pm.

An error was noted on item 4, it should read "Election of 2006/07 Office Bearers".

Proposed for acceptance :Tiong Lim

Seconded: Allen Tighe

2. Chairman's Report

Jim Russell presented the chair report (see attachment).

Proposed for acceptance: Bill Ramsay

Seconded: Allen Tighe

3. Treasurer's Report

Allen Tighe provided a brief outline of the profit and loss finance figures for the year. The FFEUC-Aus returned a profit for the year with a healthy balance. A copy of the audited treasurer's financial statement will be made available on the web site after verification by the accountant.

Proposed for acceptance: Tiong Lim

Seconded: Bill Ramsay

4. Election of 2007/2008 Office Bearers

Jim Russell dissolved the committee and handed the proceedings over to Allen Tighe to conduct the election of co-chairs.

Nomination for Co-chairs

There being no other nominations Jim Russell was re-elected as the 1st co-chair
Nomination was accepted on an interim basis..

Co-chair Jim Russell then presided over the meeting.

Nomination for Secretary

Brenton Lynch-Rhodes - Interim

Nomination for Treasurer

Allen Tighe – re-elected and accepted.

Nomination for Committee members

Duncan Turner

Kevin Barnes

Dean McNair

Tiong Lim

Catherine Moriarty

David Bilsborough

Bill Ramsay

Vince Derriman

Mat Marcussen

Nick Sima

All accepted

5. Any Other Business

None

Meeting was declared closed at 5:25 pm.

Attachment

FFEUC-Aus Inc Chair Report – AGM Tuesday 4th December 2007

The past year has been a year of consolidation for the FFEUC-Aus Inc and following are details on our activities.

COMMITTEE

I would like to thank the very hardworking committee for their enthusiasm and dedication over the past year. I feel privileged to work with this team, without their efforts the FFEUC-Aus would not be in the position it is today.

For those in the key portfolios I must make special mention of TS Lim, Allen Tighe, Dean McNair, Duncan Turner and Kevin Barnes who are the foundation on which the FFEUC depends.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership continues to grow with 400 WA members, 198 ES members and 56 OS members, a grand total of 654. I believe this still gives us the status as the most successful FFEUC in the world.

TRAINING

Our focus on training has continued and we continue to invest in our training kits with further hardware including four new Laptop PCs to replace the original second hand ones.

Income continued to be received for the hire fees of the kit.

I thank Allen Tighe for his continued effort in improving and putting on the SAIT essentials and his “home grown” configuration courses.

TECHNICAL MEETINGS

We held three technical meetings over the year as follows;

August - 1st Foundation Fieldbus Control System at a Nuclear Plant (Duke Energy) Thanks to Alexandre da Silva Peixoto (SMAR) and HIMA Australia

November – Smart Control valves -The power to integrate into IT
Thanks to Guido Koenig - Senior Manager International Sales and Marketing, SAMSON AG Germany and Samson Australia

December - Methods for Planning, Installation, Commissioning and Diagnosis of Fieldbus Installations - Thanks to Arasu Thanigai - Pepperl+Fuchs Singapore and P+F Australia

NEWSLETTER

This is an area which has rather “fallen in a hole” owing to our committee members being so busy over the year. We had one issue this year so we have performed very poorly in this regard. Hopefully we will be able to get our act together next year.

FFEUAC

The FFEUAC continues to do good work assisting end users with their issues. I thank Duncan Turner for taking up the role as the Oceania representative.

FINANCES

We have continued with the focus on being a “non profit” organisation.

The organisation is in a sound financial position, which will be detailed in the treasurer's report. Thanks again to Allen Tighe for his excellent work in the Treasurer role.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

We continue to search for a suitable organisation with the funding to support such an initiative, without success.

EASTERN STATES

Our new initiative to “piggy back” events in Melbourne was a success, with both Jump Aboard and the Duke Energy presentation being held. The numbers at both events were very encouraging.

WEBSITE

Our website www.fieldbus.org.au continues to be maintained by Allen Tighe, thanks again. It is a great portal for those looking for FF information on a local level. Also we now have a specific "JumpAboard" website with both the papers & slides now on it.

www.jumpaboard.org

JUMP ABOARD

Jump Aboard 2007 was an outstanding success and in my opinion was the best event that we have arranged to date. We had 54 attendees in Melbourne and a tremendous 118 attendees in Perth. Our “sponsored places” strategy really worked well. Thanks to all the sponsors ABB (Gold), along with silver sponsors Emerson, Geographe Energy, MTL and HIMA for their support. Papers were of high quality and thanks again to all the presenters. The event turned over \$40570 and gave us a return of \$25695. Finally thank you to the subcommittee who all did such a good job and were fundamental to the success of the event.

POSITION AS CHAIR

It has been a long hard road since October 1998 when I first broached setting up the FFEUC Australia with the Fieldbus Foundation. I have now been Chair of the FFEUC organisation for 8 years. Since then I have seen the technology move from being an “innovative technology”, through the “fieldbus wars”, early adopters, what brave people they were, the dreaded luddites and to where we are at today with a robust, proven technology which is to becoming the fieldbus and technology “of choice”.

I now feel it is time that we had a new Chair as being “semi-retired” I am no longer an “end user”. Thus I will not be re-nominating for the role this year. However I am prepared to continue on committee as “past chair”.

I would like to thank all those passionate committed committee members that I have worked with over the years.

I am sure that there is still a real role for the FFEUC in the future, the challenges are still around and with safety FF and wireless coming to the fore will provide further technical hurdles to overcome.

Jim Russell
Chair FFEUC-Aus Inc
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