



# New Zealand Search and Rescue Council

## Minutes of Meeting

1:00 – 2:00pm Thursday 28 May 2008

6<sup>th</sup> Floor Te Waka Boardroom, Novell House,  
89 The Terrace, Wellington

**Attendees:** Wayne Donnelly (MoT), Geoff Logan (NZ Police), Peter Williams (MNZ), Duncan Ferner (Nzsar Secretariat), Steve Douglas (CAA), Catherine Taylor (MNZ), Rachel Roberts (Nzsar), Nigel Clifford (MNZ), Howard Broad (NZ Police), Peter Stockwell (NZDF), Zelda Coetzee (MoT)

### 1. Welcome

Wayne Donnelly (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies

None

### 3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 November 2007 were accepted with the following change:

Item 9: Beacons Campaign item should read: *Maritime New Zealand commented that it did not have the capacity or the funding to take up the activity.*

### 4. Matters arising from the previous Minutes

All matters arising are covered by an agenda item.

### 5. Nzsar Strategic Funding

A Crown appropriation of \$4.169m was allocated for the 2008/2009 financial year with a slightly greater amount approved for the 2009/210 year to address strategic risks within the sector. The funding will be applied to:

- Search and Rescue Training and Education. A number of joint Police and RCCNZ work streams have been identified and training activities currently in place will be amplified and improved.
- Supporting SAR NGO's. The Nzsar Secretariat Manager reported that negotiations have started on Service Level Agreements (SLA). The Treasury and the Audit office have guidelines for the agreements and monitoring them. MoT Finance and Legal have been extensively involved.

- SAR sector seminar. The Council **agreed** that a SAR Sector seminar be held annually and managed by the NZSAR Secretariat. The initial seminar would be aimed at SAR leadership and would include a combined NZSAR Council and Consultative Committee meeting and the annual NZSAR awards ceremony.
- RCCNZ. Additional staff, changes and improvements to RCCNZ.
- Governance. Improving NZSAR Governance by resourcing the NZSAR Secretariat.

It is intended that once it becomes available and the policy is established, that much of this new initiative funding will transfer to hypothecated funding from the fuel excise duty paid by recreational boat users. Once passed, the Land Transport Management Amendment Act will enable this to occur. This Act will make provision for funding:

- search and rescue, as a generic activity;
- recreational boating safety education and awareness;
- maritime safety services that benefit the users of pleasure craft; and
- the Secretary of Transport's costs related to the administration of the section.

## 6. Beacons Update

Maritime NZ agreed that it is appropriate for them to continue promoting public awareness regarding 406MHz beacons beyond February 2009, but Catherine Taylor reiterated that Maritime NZ does not currently have the resources required to take the project on. The NZSAR Secretariat Manager and Maritime NZ will discuss continuation arrangements.

## 7. NZSAR Secretariat Matters

**7.1 2008/2009 Budget carry forward.** The SAR Secretariat Manager proposed that Council approve the carry forward to the 2008/2009 financial year of approximately \$46k not expended in the current financial year.

Council **approved** the carry forward.

**7.2 2008/2009 Budget.** The Secretariat Manager sought Council approval of the proposed NZSAR Secretariats budget for 2008/2009.

The NZSAR Council **approved** the proposed budget.

**7.3 Additional Staff.** The Secretariat Manager requested Council to approve the recruitment of an additional staff member to the NZSAR

Secretariat. The Council agreed that an additional staff member is required.

The Council **approved** the recruitment of an additional staff member and the proposed job description.

## **8. Wanganui & Routeburn incident updates**

Nigel Clifford updated the Council on the Coroner's inquest into the Wanganui boating incident of March 2008. The Coroner has requested that nothing should be done to prejudice the inquest. The Coronial hearing will commence on 20 September. The Council **agreed** that the NZ Police will have the communications lead regarding this incident.

The recent high profile Routeburn Track incident involving an extensive private search for a missing Israeli tourist was not discussed.

## **9. Non essential use of SAR resources**

The NZSAR Secretariat Manager proposed developing policy relating to the non essential use of SAR resources. It was noted that an increasing number of SAR incidents were possibly non essential and that the sector received frequent comment that it should charge for such incidents. Council **endorsed** the proposal.

## **10. ZK-HTF Review**

The response to recommendations of the 2006 ZK-HTF independent review was discussed.

The Council **directed** that the responses to the recommendations be updated by the Secretariat prior to the next Council meeting.

## **11. Other business**

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 1:50pm.

Proposed next meeting: 27 August 2008.

Wayne Donnelly  
**Chair**