

DECISION

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 s.189 – Arrangement for conduct of an election

National Union of Workers-Victorian Branch; National Union of Workers (E2010/2656)

T. NASSIOS

MELBOURNE, 10 SEPTEMBER 2010

Arrangement for conduct of election.

[1] On 13 August 2010 the National Union of Workers-Victorian Branch; National Union of Workers lodged with Fair Work Australia the prescribed information in relation to an election for the following offices:

General Branch Committee of Management Member (South Australia Electorate) Victorian Branch Organiser Victorian Branch National Council Delegate

[2] I am satisfied that an election for the abovenamed offices is required to be held under the rules of the organisation and, under subsection 189(3) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, I am making arrangements for the conduct of the election by the Australian Electoral Commission.



<u>DELEGATE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER</u> FAIR WORK AUSTRALIA

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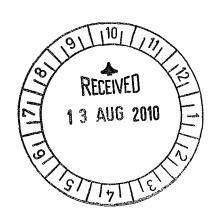


PR/RB

10C-L23

9 August 2010

General Manager Fair Work Australia Melbourne



Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: S189 - Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009

Please find enclosed an application for the conduct of an election in relation to casual vacancies arising within the organisation.

Should you require any further information please contact Assistant General Secretary Paul Richardson on 03 9287 1850.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES DONNELLY
GENERAL SECRETARY



FAIR WORK (REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS) ACT 2009

Section 189 - Conduct of elections

FAIR WORK (REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS) REGULATIONS 2009

Section 139 – Prescribed information for conduct of an election

National Union of Workers

PRESCRIBED INFORMATION FOR CONDUCT OF ELECTION IN RELATION TO CASUAL VACANCIES

- A. The following information is in relation to an election that is to be conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission ("AEC").
- 1. The name of each office or position for which an election is required: [Regulation 139 (1) (a)]

Electorate	<u>Office</u> <u>Numb</u>	er of Offices
General Branch	Committee of Management Member from the following electorate, as defined at Rule 37 (3) (b):	
	Rule 37 (3) (d)	1
Victorian Branch	Organiser National Council Delegate Reserve National Council Delegate	1 1 1

- 2. The reason for the election as it applies to the General Branch is as follows. [Regulation 138 (1) (b) (i)]
 - 2.1 On 25 June 2010, the AEC completed an election for various offices and positions within the General Branch. A copy of the declaration is attached to this Application and marked with the letter "A".
 - 2.2 Rule 13 (30) provides that persons elected take office on the sixth day of September in the year of an election.
 - 2.3 Trish Watts ("Watts") was elected unopposed to the position of Committee of Management member.

- 2.4 Watts is a member of the current Committee of Management. On 22 July 2010, Watts resigned from her office as a Committee of Management member and indicated that she did not wish to be a member of the Committee of Management with effect from 6 September 2010.
- 2.5 Accordingly, a casual vacancy exists and is imminent.
- 3. The reason for the election as it applies to the Victorian Branch is as follows: [Regulation 138 (1) (b) (i)]
 - 3.1 On 25 June 2010, the AEC completed an election for various offices or positions within the Victorian Branch. A copy of the declaration is attached and marked with the letter "B".
 - 3.2 Rule 13(3) provides that persons elected take office on the sixth day of September in the year of an election.
 - 3.3 David Hocking ("Hocking") was elected unopposed to the office of Organiser and to the position of National Council Delegate.
 - 3.4 On 13 July 2010, Hocking provided to the Branch, correspondence stating that in light of a new offer of employment, it would not be appropriate for him to assume the office of Organiser.
 - 3.5 Accordingly, a casual vacancy is imminent.
 - 3.6 The number of delegates to National Council representing the Victorian Branch is 19. The number is reduced by one given that the first delegate for each Branch shall be the Branch Secretary in accordance with Rule 7(1)(e).
 - 3.7 Tim Kennedy ("Kennedy") was elected to both the office of Branch Secretary and General Vice President. Rule 7(1)(f) provides that in this circumstance, the Branch is entitled to an additional delegate who shall be the Reserve Delegate.
 - 3.8 Gregory Lee ("Lee") was elected to the position of Reserve National Council Delegate and by virtue of the operation of Rule 7(1)(f) becomes a delegate.
 - 3.9 The intentions of Hocking and the operation of Rule 7(1)(f) mean that a casual vacancy for the position of National Council delegate is imminent; and
 - 3.10 The combined effect of Hocking's decision and the application of the Union's rules, mean that the position of Reserve National Council Delegate will be vacant on 6 September 2010.

- 4. Regulation 138 (1) (c) does not apply to this application.
- 5. The electorates comprising only members of a branch, section or division of the organisation appears at paragraph A.1 above. [Regulation 138 (1) (d)]
- 6. The organisation's Rules require that as far as practicable an election for a casual vacancy be conducted in a manner consistent with an ordinary election (Rules 43 and 13) On this basis the Union submits that the date and time of the beginning of the nomination period should be determined by the Australian Electoral Commission ("AEC") acting as the returning officer, provided that the nomination period be open and close for a period of at least 20 days. [Regulation 138 (1) (e)]
- 7. The day upon which the roll of voters closes is seven days prior to the opening of nominations in accordance with Rule 13 (e) (5) and as will be determined by the AEC. [Regulation 138 (1) (f)].
- 8. The kind of voting is direct voting (i.e. first past the post"). [Regulation 138 (1) (g)]
- B. A statement in accordance with Regulation 138 (2) is attached hereto.

DATED: 5 August 2010

FAIR WORK (REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS) ACT 2009

Section 189 – Conduct of elections

FAIR WORK (REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS) REGULATIONS 2009

Section 139 - Prescribed information for conduct of an election

National Union of Workers

AUTHORISED STATEMENT

- I, Charles Donnelly, General Secretary of the National Union of Workers state as follows:
 - 1. The information attached is lodged in accordance with and under subsection 189 (1) of the *Fair Work Act 2009*; and
 - 2. I am an officer of the organisation authorised to sign this statement.

CHARLES DONNELLY
GENERAL SECRETARY

DATE: 5 AUGUST 2010

National Union of Workers General Division Elections

DECLARATION OF RESULTS FOR UNCONTESTED OFFICES

Results of the election for the following offices conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Workplace Relations Act 1996 and the rules of the organisation.

E2010/2532

General Branch (represents SA, WA, QLD & Tas/NT and Market Research members & Forepersons

Branch President

Candidate

STEVENS, Doug

Branch Vice President

Candidate

WARNE, Alan

Branch Secretary

Candidate

ROBERTS, Sam

Committee of Management Member - Forepersons/Defence/Other

Candidate

WIGG, Rod

Committee of Management Member - Market Research (2)

Candidates

BURNS, Marc MCINTOSH, Alex

Committee of Management Member - Tasmania/Northern Territory

Candidate

BATT, Jill

Committee of Management Member - Queensland (5)

Candidates

BARTON, Mick HELSHAM, George SHANAHAN, Dani TARTAGLIA, Mayumi WIESE, Helmut

Committee of Management Member - South Australia (3)

Candidates

MATTHEWS, Wally O'CONNELL, Richard WATTS, Trish

Committee of Management Member - Western Australia

Candidate

MANN, Keith

National Council Delegate (6)

Candidates

BATT, Jill BEENHAM, John BURNS, Marc FALCONER, Alex SCHMIDT, Mark WIGG, Rod

Reserve National Council Delegate

Candidate

MCGRATH, Paul

As the number of nominations accepted did not exceed the number of positions to be filled, I declare the above candidates elected.

John Nemcic Returning Officer

25 June 2010

National Union of Workers Victorian Branch Offices

DECLARATION OF RESULTS FOR UNCONTESTED OFFICES

Results of the election for the following offices conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Workplace Relations Act 1996 and the rules of the organisation.

E2010/2532

Branch President

Candidate

WARREN, Julie

Branch Senior Vice President (2)

Candidates

ALLISON, Susie GLOVER, John

Branch Junior Vice President

Candidate

DOBSON, Brad

Branch Secretary

Candidate

KENNEDY, Tim

Branch Assistant Secretary

Candidate

CURNOW, Esmond

Organiser (5)

Candidates

BURMEISTER, Gayle CALVERT, Christopher HOCKING, David JACOBI, Belinda KALOMIRIS, Chris

Committee of Management Member (12)

Candidates

BYRNE, Patrick
CHAPMAN, Craig
CLAUDIUS, Les
COGHLAN, Gary
CUPPLES, Pamela
FINNIGAN, Brendan
JACOBSON, Tracey
MIGUEL, Luis
REDGWELL, Clifford
ROUEL, John
VELJANOVSKI, Michael
WILSON, Danial

National Council Delegate (18)

Candidates

ALLISON, Susie ALTAY, Rifat CALVERT, Christopher CARTWRIGHT, Justin CURNOW, Esmond DOBSON, Brad GLOVER, John GRIFFITHS, Russell HARRIS, Sophie HOCKING, David HOWIE, Steven JACOBI, Belinda KALOMIRIS, Chris MAAS, Gary NAVUSOLO, Keni RILEY, Andrew STILES, Darren WARREN, Julie

Reserve National Council Delegate

Candidate

LEE, Gregory

As the number of nominations accepted did not exceed the number of positions to be filled, I declare the above candidates elected.

Tony King

Returning Officer

25 June 2010

asking.

From: Paul Richardson
To: WAUGH, Ben

Subject: E2010/2656 - Conduct of Election

Date: Thursday, 9 September 2010 6:08:02 PM

Dear Ben

I refer to the above and our recent phone conversation and your email dated 30 August 2010.

I apologise for the delay in this reply.

After further consideration the Union seeks to amend its application so as to remove the reference to Victorian Reserve National Council delegate.

Thus the amended application seeks an election in respect of:

- General Branch Committee of Management Member from the South Australian electorate
- 2. Victorian Branch Organiser
- Victorian Branch National Council Delegate.

As we have indicated there is some tension between the operation of Rule 7 (1) (f) and Rule 43 (3). The former allows for the reserve delegate to fill a position on the Branch delegation if the Secretary holds a Presidential role on the Council. The latter applies where a Council delegate position becomes vacant.

It is unclear to as to whether or not the Reserve Delegate assumes the role of a replacement to the delegate over the Secretary's vacancy however the point is somewhat moot insofar as the net result is there is one fewer delegate than the Branch is entitled to.

Rule 9 allows a Branch to nominate a proxy delegate where a delegate is unable or unwilling to attend the Council. My view would be that this does not extend to this situation as the incumbent (Hocking) could not be described as being "unable or unwilling" – he is barred from attending given his resignation.

I trust this is of assistance and look forward to receiving your response at the earliest opportunity

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss further

Regards

Paul Richardson | Assistant National Secretary | National Union of Workers

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