

State Rescue Board Meeting Communiqué

12 September 2013

The State Rescue Board held its 109th meeting on Thursday 12 September 2013.

Rescue Accreditation and Rescue Arrangements

The Board endorsed the primary general land rescue accreditation for Fire & Rescue Morisset. In accordance with the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*, the Board will recommend the accreditation change to the Minister.

The Board also endorsed a change in rescue arrangements in the Barraba Local Government Area. It was agreed that:

- Fire & Rescue Barraba will become the primary general land rescue unit
- Barraba Volunteer Rescue Association will become the secondary general land rescue unit.

In August 2012, the Board endorsed the proposal to combine the Wollongong, Kiama and Shellharbour Local Rescue Committees into a single Illawarra Local Rescue Committee. Subsequently, the Board was presented with revised response arrangements for the area at the meeting. The new arrangements were supported by the Board.

Volunteer Rescue Funding

Under section 48(1)(i) of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*, the Board is required to make a recommendation to the Minister on the levels of Government assistance that should be provided to the volunteer rescue agencies.

At the meeting, the Board agreed to recommend to the Minister that funding to the value of \$1,360,854 be approved for the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association for the 2013/14 financial year.

Vertical Rescue

The Policy Advisory Committee to the Board has completed a review of the minimum training standards for vertical rescue. The standards were presented to and endorsed by the Board at the meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 5 December 2013.