



The council's recent meeting in Hamilton was to have been held in conjunction with a "meet the members evening". However, there were too few Waikato/Bay of Plenty members willing to attend. Instead, the council held just its regular meeting and will review the benefit of "meet the members" evenings to ensure that the executive spends Association funds for the maximum benefit of members. Here are the main points that arose from the meeting.

- We have finished analysing the forms that people completed at the 2012 conference regarding strengths, weaknesses and expectations. In mid-January 2013 the council and a facilitation expert will assemble a detailed work plan based on the analysis.
- Council is looking for a new chief executive to replace Ian Grooby, who has worked part-time during 2012. Based on data from the conference, the council believes that the position should be full-time to provide the highest possible level of service to members. Ian is in agreement and he will retire after the 2013 conference in Napier. The council is looking for a suitable replacement, to be hired before the conference.
- The above events and future matters will largely be canvassed on the website and members need to register on the site to gain access the information. Report any registration problems to web@cranes.org.nz. Registration is important so that members may keep their own company details current at www.cranes.org.nz - "login" to start the process
- Outstanding accounts: A few members have been reminded about outstanding accounts. We are not a bank and their not paying causes financial members to subsidise them. We have decided to enforce Clause 4.12 (vi) if such Member shall for a period of not less than six months make default in payment of any Membership fee or levy or part of it ... and membership will be terminated.

Newsletter of the

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- Road User charges continue to absorb significant councillors' and industry experts' time. We have talked regularly NZ Transport Agency officials and the Ministry of Transport as there are still some points requiring clarification.
- The executive has begun to rewrite the Crane Safety Manual. We will hold meetings in the first ½ of 2013 and will seek expert advice from the appropriate people.
- There is talk of a re-introduction of Mobile Crane Weight Certificates, which ceased following the introduction of the Vehicle Dimension and Mass Rule in 2001. This matter will be discussed early next month at the Axle Weights and Loadings Advisory Group meeting (we have a representative on this panel)
- A number of companies have problems over Bridge Engineering Self Supervision (BESS) regarding issuing of ID cards, replacing cards, CVIU view on offences (and what their criteria is) and details of appeals, and now renewal of cards already issued. We took the matter up with both the CVIU and the New Zealand Transport Agency to sort the problems but to date we have not received a substantive response and this matter will also be taken up at the Axle Weights and Loadings Group Advisory meeting.
- The 2013 conference will be held on 18th and 19th July at the Napier War Memorial Conference Centre. Accommodation is at Te Pania Scenic Circle Hotel (straight across the road). The programme is almost finalised and the council feel that this will provide a varied and interesting programme for all. Response to the sponsorship request has been very good but there are still spots available. There will be 5 Associate members' sessions where the Associates can promote their products to the membership and for 2013 the time for each of these has been increased to ½ hour. The executive felt that with the new types of products that are available and given that Associates are the major sponsors of our conference this needed to be recognised.
- Although it is still 18 months until the 2014 conference the executive is already looking at what can be provided as this will be the 40th annual conference and the 2012 conference decided to go back to the city where the first conference was held – Nelson. If anyone has any suggestions on what they would like to see in the programme or something special for delegates and partners please let us know.
- Now is the time for members to start thinking about whether or not they have someone within their organisation (maybe even themselves) who would be prepared to get involved in the running of the Association at executive level. We make this plea every year but we do need to have councillors who are committed to the benefit of the Association and who can contribute.
- Members will have received a recent newsletter from Opportunity – The Training Organisation that they will be “merging” into the Skills Organisation from later this year. Discussions that some of the executive have been involved in with the chief executive of the Skills Organisation indicate that there will be a smooth transition and that the new ITO will cater for training and expectations of the crane industry. A member of the Skills Organisation will address delegates at the conference and they have already been generous in their sponsorship for conference.

New members:

We welcome the following new members:

Associates:

McCallum Cranes Ltd, Christchurch
 BT CraneWorks Ltd, Hamilton
 NZ Projects & Design Ltd, Kerikeri

Full members:

Lathey Civil & Precast Ltd, Hastings

Cancellations:

The following have cancelled their membership:

Full members:

C.C.C Ltd, Auckland

Associates:

Towers Auckland Ltd, Auckland
 Bridgestone NZ Ltd, Auckland
 W H & N F Johnston, Waiheke Island

