

**Minutes of the Scottish Water Branch Meeting held on 21st April 2009 – Belford Road
Edinburgh**

Present:

Willie Fortune	Fergus Allan	Steve Scott	Dave Wilkinson
Richard Mould	Ian McKay	Steve O'Malley	(Chair)
Andy Ferguson	Peter Veldon - FTO	Monique Fernandes	
Elaine Noble	Andy Nisbet	Jim Anderson	
		Miranda Jacques-Turner	

Dave Wilkinson in the Chair

Item	Notes	Action by
1.0	<u>Apologies for absence</u>	
1.1	Apologies were received from: Steve Gordon; Miranda Jacques-Turner; Robin Gallacher; Paul Hyles; Jim Gault; Jim Anderson (Shet)	
2.0	The Chair welcomed the Ian McKay as a new rep to the meeting as well as Peter Veldon, the new FTO.	
3.0	<u>Minutes of previous meeting (March 2008)</u> Minutes Approved as subject to the following corrections; i) Andy Nisbet not listed as attendee, but was in fact present. ii) Lab Review – to note that the previous working group had reached a consensus decision. iii) Contact Centre – to clarify that the meeting with Mary Watt was to discuss <u>all</u> Contact Centre issues. Proposed - JA Seconded: EN	
4.0	<u>Matters Arising</u>	
4.1	Clarity re Pay Claim – concerns had previously been expressed about the lack of clarity surrounding the terms of the pay claim. The Chair informed the meeting that after discussions with Dougie Black and Steve Scott, the terms of the Pay Claim as stated in the recent newsletter sent to all members is the definitive position.	
4.2	List of Stewards – The Branch Secretary informed the Executive that the final list	

	of stewards had now been compiled, and had been highlighted in the newsletter.	
5.0	<u>JTUG</u>	
5.1	Steve Scott gave a report on the recent meeting of the JTUG in Glasgow. Firstly, a discussion took place on the structure of the new negotiating structure. After a short discussion, the three trade unions agreed that there would be no change to their position that they would not sit on any negotiation body with non union members of staff.	
5.2	Re-structure – concerns were expressed regarding the extent of the re-structure and the lack of trade union involvement. Fears were expressed that members may be adversely affected by the changes and that trade unions would be constantly in a reactive position. It was agreed that DW raise this at the next meeting with management. Also, the Branch Secretary was asked to write to the Director of HR emphasising our rights to represent members.	DW/ A N
5.3	Lab Review – Given the lack of a negotiating structure, the JTUG was asked for support to be given to Dave Wilkinson and Elaine Noble to continue participating in the group along with management to ensure that the interests of members are looked after. The JTUG agreed to support Dave and Elaine.	
5.4	Bonus – a number of rumours had been circulating regarding the bonus for 2009. DW was asked to seek clarification from Andrew Walker at the next meeting with management as to the status of the bonus.	DW
6.0	<u>Branch Officer Reports</u>	
6.1	Branch Secretary – AN updated the meeting on the Working Time Regulations and passed out a briefing note for Executive members. Resignations – AN passed out a spreadsheet detailing the number of resignations. It was noted that a large proportion were managers and team leaders, as well as members who had left the organisation pre-dating the industrial action. There was a discussion around contacting ex-members but it was agreed to leave the situation as it was. Notice Boards – It was agreed that Monique Fernandes was keep the FMH Notice Board up to date. Customer Complaints – AN reported that he had approached Mark Dickson regarding the imminent restructure. It was agreed that the Branch Secretary contact MD to ask for a separate meeting to represent Unison members only.	
6.2	Branch Treasurers Report – FA gave an update on Branch Finances. Healthy balance. Also, updated the Executive on the question surrounding the Alloa office. The previous administrator, who had left Unison, has apparently been made redundant, and had suggested that she would be willing to work for the previous Branches on an agency basis. FA to attend a meeting with other Branch reps to discuss further.	MF AN FA
6.3	Labs Review – DW/EN reported back on the latest update on the Lab review. Discussions were continuing over a number of options. It was stated that 39 staff are potentially affected in Bullion House. Should Bullion House close, then some employees will certainly be displaced. However, the consultation exercise is on-going and a further meeting is due to take place on 28 th April.	DW/ E N

6.3	<p>Scottish Water Solutions – JSA reported on the current situation with regard to SWS. He stated that SW is currently looking at SWS 2 and bids are being considered. People management issues are also being looked at. Concerns have been expressed over work/life balance and a longer hours culture which prevails in Solutions at the moment.</p>	
7.0	<p>AOCB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reminder to vote for John Jones as our NEC representative. 2) AN received a late nomination as a steward and a debate ensued around this issue. After discussion, it was agreed that the nomination be accepted but that the whole issue of representation be looked at. 3) DW received e-mail from Jim Gault regarding travelling expenses to Scottish Council. It was re-stated that it is acceptable to use private transport to attend meetings in Scotland. 	AN
9.0		