
SOUTHERN AFRICA REVENUE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: 10 July 2013

TIME: 17h00-19h00

VENUE: Indaba Room, Hartenbos Beach Resort

MEMBERS:

Olivier, William	President	Mossel Bay Municipality	Present
Rhode, Michael	President Elect	Knysna/AMEU	Present
Lelaka, Malesela	Imm Past President	Eskom	Present
du Preez, Naas	Past President	Eskom	Present
Louw, Deon	Past President	Drakenstein Municipality	Apology
Gower, Chris	Past President/Eastern Cape	Buffalo City Municipality	Present
Bindeman, Rens	Technical Advisor	Revenue Investigations	Present
Laubscher, Andrew	Bushveld Branch Chair	Greater Tzaneen Municipality	Present
Maphaka, Maboe	Gauteng Branch Chair	Eskom	Present
Mbobo, Pam	Central Branch Chair	Centlec	Present
Nkwanyana, Nathi	KZN Branch Representative	eThekwini	Apology
Selowa, Solly	Representative	DWA	Apology
De Vries, Paul	W Cape Branch Chair	Drakenstein	Present
Usurua, Theofilia	Namibia Branch Chair	City of Windhoek	Apology
Zwane, Njabulo	Mpumalanga Branch Chair	Mbombela Municipality	Apology
du Plessis, Peet	Representative	IMFO	Apology
Holeni, Miyelani	Representative	IMFO	Apology
Venter, Jean	General Secretary	SARPA	Present

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The president welcomed members present and noted the above apologies.

2. READING AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting that was held on 12 March 2013.

3. PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION

The secretary advised that repeated calls for nominations did not render any candidates. The committee then noted that it had the power to nominate if a vacancy in the position of president elect occurs.

AGREED

- a. To nominate Mr Maboe Maphaka as president elect of the association. Mr Maphaka accepted the nomination and was congratulated.
- b. To hold the 2014 convention in the town of Knysna and the 2015 convention at Eskom sponsored facilities.

[Dion Abrahams, Bruce Turner, Michael Rhode, Maboe Maphaka, Charlene Wightman]

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The committee confirmed audited annual financial statements for the year ended December 2012, as well as year to date management financial statements.

The secretary pointed out that the deficit projection for this year was similar to that of the previous year and that this trend was not sustainable, and that a new cost and revenue strategy was required.

Members pointed out that the association was doing vitally important work and lately had a major impact on the levels of copper theft by assisting in the training of the police force in dealing with this type of crime. This work is expensive but does not generate revenue in a direct way and that we need to relook the membership fee structure.

AGREED

- a. That the secretary will model a new membership structure that recognises the relative size of member utilities and targets a revenue level that can fund the reasonable expenses of the organisation. The fees model to be circulated to members of the committee for comment and agreement at the next meeting of the council in November, for implementation in 2014.
- b. To forward a list of outstanding membership fees to Mr Bindeman as well as to the branch chairs. **(AN)**
- c. Replace the billing contact for each member organisation with the address of the actual representative.
- d. That the branches submit event attendance registers to the secretariat and that the secretariat sends membership forms to participating utilities that are not already members. The lists may also help identify if and when the representative of the utility has changed. **(AN)**
- e. To include a year to date branch expenditure analysis in the management statements. **(AdS)**

[General Secretary, Andrew Nkosi, Roberta Govender, Adrie da Silva]

Mr Bindeman advised that the previous initiatives to recruit member utilities using personal visits to the organisations were not working well at all. It was **AGREED** not to pursue that approach.

[Rens Bindeman]

5. BRANCH REPORTS

KwaZulu Natal: The most recent branch meeting that was held jointly with the AMEU in Eshowe was very well attended. Members noted that organisational co-operation between the AMEU and SARPA admin structures in KwaZulu Natal was not working well from a fundraising and cost sharing perspective. **AGREED** that the secretary and Mr Bindeman discuss co-operation between the KwaZulu Natal branch administrators with the respective administrators in a teleconference.

[Cindy Maree, General Secretary, Rens Bindeman]

Eastern Cape: A written report by Mr Gower was noted with thanks. The most recent meeting held on 4 April was attended by 29 delegates. Municipal utility attendance remains lower than what is desirable. A good selection of papers from external stakeholders was presented and affiliate participation was good.

Bushveld Branch: A written report by Mr Laubscher was noted with thanks. The meeting held on 2 May 2013 was attended by four municipalities and four affiliate companies. Copper theft losses in the area seem to be on the increase.

Gauteng: Branch meetings have been few and far between. It was **AGREED** that to be viable the small number of utilities in the province would need to send multiple delegates to meetings of the branch. Mr Bindeman to introduce Mr Maphaka to the new revenue manager at City Power. Messrs Maphaka and Bindeman to arrange for a new set of office-bearer volunteers for the branch.

[Messrs Maphaka and Bindeman]

Free State: The most recent meeting was very successful and the new branch organiser was commended for doing good work.

Mpumalanga: The branch has not met for a long time. **AGREED** that Eskom will take the lead to arrange for office-bearers and for meetings in the future. Mr Olivier agreed to discuss participation in SARPA with Mr Grunig of Middelburg.

[Messrs Lelaka and Olivier]

Namibia Branch: Noted that the branch has not met for some time and **AGREED** that Mr Bindeman would discuss future events with the representative from Walvis Bay at the conference.

[Rens Bindeman]

6. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISER

Mr Bindeman then provided a short overview of his activities.

AGREED

- a. That a copy of the weighted revenue recovery toolkit spreadsheet must be circulated to the committee for comment before it is uploaded to the website by the secretariat.
- b. That the written report by Mr Bindeman be circulated to members. [Rens Bindeman]

7. NRS PROJECT

Members noted that the draft methodology to calculate and state technical and non-technical system losses of electricity is being piloted in eThekweni. Mr Rhode suggested that the diversity of tamper penalties around the country was problematic and that a guideline in this respect may be a good idea.

AGREED that Mr Bindeman initiate the inclusion of guidelines on tamper penalties into NRS 055.

[Messrs Bindeman, Gower and Maphaka]

8. CONVENTION 2013

The programme and budget status of the convention was **NOTED**.

AGREED to ratify the previous round robin decision of the council to fund travel arrangements for the president to the limit of R35 000 to attend the upcoming IURPA Conference in the USA.

[Secretary, Mr Rhode]

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6 November 2013 in Johannesburg

10. CLOSURE

The president thanked members and invited them to dinner.

THUS READ AND CONFIRMED

PRESIDENT

DATE