
SOUTHERN AFRICA REVENUE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: 14 November 2012

TIME: 10h00

VENUE: Premier Boardrooms (OR Tambo)

MEMBERS:

Olivier, William	President	Mossel Bay Municipality	Present
Rhode, Michael	President Elect	Drakenstein/AMEU	Present
Lelaka, Malesela	Imm Past President	Eskom	Apology
du Preez, Naas	Past President	Eskom	Present
Louw, Deon	Past President	Overstrand 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	Apology
Mbobo, Pam	Central Branch Chair	Centlec	Apology
Nkwanyana, Nathi	KZN Branch Representative	eThekweni	Apology
Selowa, Solly	Representative	DWA	Apology
Stopford, Greg	W Cape Branch Chair	City of Cape Town	Present
Tosen, Johan	Representative	Eskom	Resigned
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 11 July 2012 with minor amendments.

AGREED to publish Branch reports in future together with the minutes in the news bulletin with links to the web knowledgebase. Mr Rhode agreed to make a branch report template for use by branch chairmen when reporting to the committee.

[Michael Rhode, Secretariat: Cindy Maree, Dion Abrahams, Bruce Turner]

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The committee **NOTED** year to date management financial statements tabled by the secretary.

Members debated the asset levels that the association should be holding, with due regard for the need to pay deposits for event venues and contractors as well as to cover future lapses in event revenue. Various concepts were discussed to increase revenue for the association while increasing value to members.

AGREED that:

- a. SARPA should hold at least one million rand in funds that can be accessed at reasonably short notice and effort should be made to increase asset levels to this level as soon as possible.
- b. Delegate fees for 2013 conferences to be R3000 for members and R3500 for non-members.
- c. The budget for 2013 to be adopted as tabled.
- d. Stage a conference early in 2013 focusing on non-ferrous metal theft in partnership with the SAPS. Mr Bindeman to discuss with SAPS.
- e. To create distinct event sections for water, finance and electricity related revenue protection, on separate days. (MJ)

[Rens Bindeman, General Secretary, Secretariat: Marisa Jacobs]

4. BRANCH REPORTS

Written reports were tabled by the Goodhope, Free State, and Eastern Cape branches which will be published in the newsletter. The Bushveld branch reported very poor attendance to their latest meeting with only two municipalities and two affiliates present.

5. STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS

AMEU: The organisation held its annual conference in October reporting record attendance levels. In early November a block of committee meetings were held in George where matters relating to the MYPD3 process as well as new initiatives by the LGSETA for co-ordinated training efforts featured.

ESKOM: Mr du Preez advised that the current Eskom representative has emigrated and that Mr Lelaka is not directly working in revenue protection any more. Eskom is undergoing a number of organisational changes that will feature more specialisation and specialised functions.

AGREED that Mr du Preez request that member ESKOM appoint a new representative to the SARPA executive council as allowed for in the SARPA constitution.

[Naas de Preez]

PIESA: Mr Bindeman advised that the revenue loss committee has requested more time at future meeting blocks for their business. The committee has restructured its action plan and

members are committing more effort to the committee. The chairman commended Mr Bindeman for work done on this committee.

6. REPORT BY THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

The committee noted a written report from the technical advisor on activities of the association since the last committee meeting. The advisor also compared current activities with the objectives that the organisation set for itself at its previous strategy session. The report as well as the objectives slides to be put onto the knowledgebase with links in the newsletter.

[Rens Bindeman, Secretariat: Dion Abrahams]

7. REVENUE RECOVERY PROJECT

Various members collaborated to refine the revenue recovery toolkit. The toolkit and an associated assessment tool were discussed and it was **AGREED** that both documents need to be converted into an interactive web application, with a multi-tenant nature to give every user organisation its own data set, reports and access. Mr Louw to collaborate with the secretary in this regard.

[General Secretary, Deon Louw]

8. NRS PROJECT

Mr Gower advised that NRS 080 is ready for signoff, pending enhancement of one of the tables. An implementation study will be done at eThekweni who have volunteered to host a pilot.

9. COPPER CONDUCTOR MARKING

Mr Gower advised that current efforts to set specifications or standards for the marking of copper cable is not progressing well and that SARPA should get more involved in this process working with TC66.

AGREED that Messrs Bindeman and Gower will provide support to SABS TC66 to develop a cable marking standard.

[Rens Bindeman, Chris Gower]

10. CONVENTION 2013

The president advised that the Hartenbosch Whale Hall is the most suitable venue in Mossel Bay for the 2013 Convention and that the venue is well priced.

AGREED that the secretariat proceed to contract the Whale Hall for the conference.

[Secretariat: Marisa Jacobs]

The committee then debated themes for the convention:

The following concepts were noted:

- a. Effective revenue protection: a critical success factor for utilities.
- b. Mainstreaming revenue protection
- c. Smart technologies
- d. Back to basics
- e. What are the basics
- f. Useful case studies
- g. Water revenue
- h. Financial sustainability
- i. Data Management
- j. Copper theft

Key Note Addresses

- a. Salga CEO
- b. International speakers

AGREED that the secretariat proceed to draft a call for papers using concepts from the previous call for papers and the above list and can publish to the community after circulating to the committee.

[Secretariat: Marisa Jacobs]

11. RESOURCES

Item can be removed from the agenda.

[Secretariat: Cindy Maree]

12. SECOND HAND GOODS ACT

Mr Gower suggested that SARPA should promote with legislators amendments to the second hand goods act forcing all trade in copper cables with a diameter of larger than 16 mm to be approved by regional stakeholder committees.

AGREED that Mr Gower will define the proposed regional autorisation proposal for trade in copper wire cable exceeding 16 mm in diameter, and that the proposal to be forwarded by Mr Bindeman to Brig. Bert van der Walt of SAPS for consideration in the legislative process.

[Chris Gower and Rens Bindeman]

13. BRANCH GOVERNANCE

The secretary and Mr Bindeman motivated that the branch structures were not functioning optimally and recommended changes to the structures.

AGREED:

- a. To appoint for every branch a branch organiser person, an affiliates representative, as well as portfolio holders for Water, Finance, and Electricity. The branch organiser to be paid a stipend annually from the central budget.
- b. That all branches where the current office bearers have been in their positions for more than two years conduct a call for nominations. Elections to be held if nominations are contested.
- c. Branch office bearers who are absent from more than two meetings without apologies and arrangements be replaced by the very next branch meeting.

[Branch Secretaries, Rens Bindeman]

14. COMMERCIAL CONFERENCES

Members enquired about the stance of SARPA regarding support for commercial conferences by members and office-bearers.

AGREED that SARPA will promote its own conferences and that papers and other forms of participation or support for commercial conferences are not encouraged.

[All members]

15. DATES OF 2013 MEETINGS

12 March 2013
10 July 2013 and Dinner (Day before Convention)
06 November 2013

16. CLOSURE

The president thanked members and closed the meeting.

THUS READ AND CONFIRMED

PRESIDENT

DATE