

MINUTES OF THE VAAL DAM RESERVOIR FORUM THAT WAS HELD AT THE EARLYBIRD SOCIAL CLUB IN STANDERTON ON 09 APRIL 2003 AT 10:00

1. PRESENT:

NAME	Representing
Mario Augoustinos	Sasol
Korf Stoltz	Earlybird
L Matlala	DWAF
T Gyedu- Ababio	Rand Water
S Claassen	Lekwa Municipality
D van Wyngaard	Wool Textile
T Koen	Toga Linings
F Schoeman	Earlybird
N Mhlongo	Nestle
D Thabana	DWAF:Grootdraai Office
T Moloji	DWAF:Grootdraai Office
Len Rootman	Harmony Gold Mine
D Masoabi	Rand Water
T Mthembu	DWAF:Vaal Dam Office
R Gilmour	Harmony Gold Mine
G Vosloo	Agriculture

2. APOLOGIES:

K Pema
J Rust
E Moenza
M Ludick
C Mhlongo
F Koegelenberg
T Pather
A Cronje
D Lubbe

3. ADDITIONAL POINT TO THE AGENDA

Questionnaires from Rand Water and Forum Charter were added to the agenda as point 8d and 8e respectively. The agenda was then accepted.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Minutes were accepted without making any amendments.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

- ❖ Forum Charter was distributed for comments
- ❖ Lebo to contact Direk Hannekom to appoint a representative from Eskom
- ❖ Riana Munnik to select a representative from Grootdraai Forum
- ❖ Mr. Potgieter to select a representative from Waterval Forum
- ❖ Lebo to follow up with Seppi for other Community representatives (CBO, NGO, Housing committee)

6. FEEDBACK FROM FMC: Thomas

- ❖ Thomas appealed to all FMC members to attend and take this management committee seriously as their inputs and ideas are of utmost importance.
- ❖ Water Week celebration was discussed and Standerton was chosen as the central place for Water Week celebration in 2003. It was agreed that the activities to take place will be the Mini SASS scoring and water taste testing.
- ❖ Earlybird Farm mentioned that they will be unable to sponsor this year's Water Week but they will in future make proposal to their management and if funds are available they will budget for this kind of activity.
- ❖ Representative task team: Lebo was given a task of identifying all the Interested and Affected parties (eg: NGO, CBO, Boat Clubs etc) around the catchment and invite them to the Forum.
- ❖ Water Quality Objectives (WQO): Thomas mentioned that this catchment, Vaal Dam Reservoir starts downstream of the Grootdraai Dam wall in Standerton up to the Vaal Dam wall in Deneysville and therefore we need to set water quality objectives for it. He proposed that we have one set of objectives for the whole Vaal Dam catchment, which includes Grootdraai, Waterval and the Wilge/Liebenbergsvlei catchment.
- ❖ Newsletter: The FMC agreed that a newsletter must be published for our catchment and DWAF will sponsor for publishing. Rand Water agreed to meet Water Affairs half way in publishing the Newsletter.

Action Points / Decisions

No	Description	Actions	Resp.
1.	WELCOME		
	MA welcomed all members present		
2.	POLLUTION INCIDENTS		
	Lebo requested all members of the forum to report any kind of incident that they are aware about. Mario emphasized that should anyone notice anything to contact Water Affairs, Lebo in this case so that the matter can be dealt with. The idea is not to prosecute but rather have the incident dealt with to minimize the pollution in the catchment.	ALL	
3.	WATER WEEK FEEDBACK		
	Seppi wrote a letter to Department of Education (DE) requesting them to identify and inform the schools about water week. Seppi also arranged the hall.		Seppi
	Lebo then liase with Ignis from DE and arranged with the schools.		Lebo
	Water Week was celebrated in Standerton at the Sakhile Hall, a presentation was made about sanitation and Hygiene, water resource management. Learners were taken to the River for Mini SASS. Teachers did a water taste testing competition.	Tshepo and Lebo.	Cebo, Thomas
	The water week was successful, enjoyable and knowledgeable as well. Both teachers and learners were co-operative, showed interest and took part in all the activities.		
	Jazz festival planned by Rand Water was moved to Vereeniging		Thomas

	because there was lack of sponsorship to make it at the Vaal Dam. People were given free Bottled water from Rand Water.		
4.	GENERAL ISSUES		
	<p>(a) WATER QUALITY STATUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Thomas requested members to keep their maps safely because in future no maps will be made available. Only status reports will be distributed. ❖ Thomas made a presentation on the water quality status of the Vaal Dam Reservoir catchment from Jan-Mar. The catchment's water quality is good mainly because we have lots of water coming into the catchment thereby buffering it. ❖ Mario raised a concern that MOL is not appearing in the map. Thomas said it is because most times is dry. ❖ Thomas mentioned that he was concerned with the high level of Flouride at the VGB point. Flouride is associated with coal mining and there is a possibility of people decanting water upstream of that point. ❖ Lebo and Rand Water were given a task to make a follow up on that issue. ❖ Two people must go out and drive around the catchment taking grab samples upstream and downstream and assess how the water quality changes. When comparing water from the VD1 point water coming from the Katse dam should be considered. <p>(b) Water use registration and Licensing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lebo requested that all the water users who have not yet registered to register their water use and urge the forum members to spread the word to everyone they know specially the Farmers. This will help DWAF in knowing who is using water, where, how much and for what purposes. Registering will also help water users when the Department calls for compulsory licensing. Those who do not register are lowering their chance of getting a license to use water. ❖ Mario will be attending a Farmers union meeting on 10 April 2003, he will therefore give out DWAF's contact details so that a presentation can be made concerning water use registration process. ❖ Lebo to find out who has registered their water use so that those people can also be invited to the Forum. <p>(c) Integrated Monitoring Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mario suggested that we deal with the current one, see where we have problems, deal with them and then after we sorted everything out with this one we can look at developing an integrated one. <p>(d) QUESTIONNAIRE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A questionnaire was prepared by Rand Water's marketing department was handed out to the members and were requested to fill it and hand them back to Thomas. 	<p>DWAF and Rand Water</p> <p>DWAF and Rand Water</p> <p>All</p> <p>Mario</p> <p>Lebo</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p>	<p>Thomas</p>

	<p>(e) FORUM CHARTER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mario indicated that the Charter could be used as a legal tool for the Forum. He requested members to go through it, make comments and Forward them to Lebo within two weeks. ❖ Mario asked if any of the members know about the National Water resource Strategy and indicated that it is very important for members to take note of the strategy because it gives guidelines on what we need to do. ❖ Lebo was therefore given a task of distributing the summary of the strategy to the Forum members as well as thw web link where the whole strategy is so that people can access it and go through it. ❖ Next meeting we need to finalize the Charter, sign it and have it accepted by Dwaf. <p>(f) Water Quality Objective Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Thomas will be chairing this team. Lebo, Gideon and Eskom representative will be the members of this team. ❖ Mario indicated that he is willing to participate as well as long as he is informed in time of the meetings. <p>(g) Newsletter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lebo to find out if DWAF will be able to sponsor for publishing this newsletter. ❖ Thomas said Rand Water is willing to contribute as well. ❖ The following issues will appear on our first Newsletter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water Quality Status ▪ Registration Process ▪ Water Week ▪ Article from Lekwa Municipality ▪ Article from Earlybird Farms ❖ Mario requested that all articles be submitted to Lebo before 8 May 2003. ❖ Thomas requested that all articles be in English and be submitted electronically or save them on a disk. 	<p>All</p> <p>Lebo</p> <p>All</p> <p>Lebo</p> <p>Rand Water DWAF</p> <p>Seppi Korf</p>	
5.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING		
	<p>13 August 2003</p> <p>12 November 2003 (last meeting for 2003)</p>		
6.	Closure		
	<p>Mario thanked everyone for attending and expressed gratitude to DWAF for catering and Earlybird for making the venue available. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45</p>		