

MINUTES

WILGE RIVER FORUM

19 November 2013
10:00 – 13:00



No	Item	Action
1.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair welcomed all attendees. 	RH
2.	Introduction of Attendees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All attendees introduced themselves. 	All
3.	Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bashan Govender- DWA. Nokukhanya Radebe – Mafube Local Municipality NP Cindi – Phumelela Municipality E Janse Van Rensburg – Environmental Health 	All
4.	Minutes of Previous Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no corrections. 	All
5.	Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> J Mofokeng was tasked to investigate the impact of spillage whereby the truck spilled diesel into the environment at Bethlehem. J Mofokeng responded that currently they are still busy with rehabilitation which might take about 6 months. J Mofokeng was tasked to arrange a meeting with local government district SALGA and COGTA to discuss WWTW issues. J Mofokeng answered that the meeting did not take place due to other commitment however he will follow with MAP Water regarding the date of the next meeting. 	All
6.	Additions to the Agenda	All
6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) 	
6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pricing Strategy 	
7.	Items for Presentation	
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The forum agreed that this item must be removed from the agenda. 	
8.	Items for Discussions	J Mofokeng
8.1	<p>DWA</p> <p>DWA presented the water quality status of Wilge catchment with reference to the problematic areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elands River below QwaQwa – there was non-compliance of chloride, ammonia and faecal coliforms due to manhole around that area. Wilge below Harrismith – there was non – compliance of faecal coliforms and ammonia due to pump station overflowing. J Mofokeng indicated that in September 2013 he conducted another inspection and find out that the pump station has been repaired. Bethlehem Sewage Works – there was non - compliance of ammonia, E – coli and COD due to aerators and biofilters that were not working. The Department compiled the report with the findings and will be forwarded to the Municipality. Harrismith Sewage Works – there was non – compliance of ammonia, 	J Mofokeng

8.2	<p>COD and E – Coli the past two months currently they are busy with upgrade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tshame Sewage Works – there was non – compliance of ammonia, phosphate, COD and E – Coli. The Department will have full inspection in November 2013 in order to check the status of the WWTW. <p>Rand Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S Mporetji rendered the latest water quality status of the catchment. Most of the variables were in non-compliance especially the nitrates and ammonia. • With regard to the WWTW there was non-compliance of ammonia and phosphate. 	T Pather
8.3	<p>Solid Waste Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Pather reported that illegal dumping that was raised in the previous meeting at Bethlehem next to the shopping centre; the Municipality will apply for permit in order to have it authorized. • Bethlehem – operating as normal. • Qwa Qwa – operating as normal • Kestel – operating as normal • Frankfort, Warden and Tweeling – landfill sites are small sites not well managed. The landfill sites will be reported to Free State Environmental Affairs. 	
9.1	<p>Catchment Activities – Feedback from Stakeholders</p> <p>Phumelela Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology. 	
9.2	<p>Nketoana Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology. 	
9.3	<p>Dihlabeng Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are having challenges in terms of operational personnel hopefully in the next meeting they will be some improvement. • E Matseba requested Dihlabeng Municipality to try and control the amount of water coming into the WWTW. 	
9.4	<p>Mafube Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative 	
9.5	<p>Thabo Mofutsanyane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative. 	
9.6	<p>MAP Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of their WWTW most of the variables the past three months showed that they are complying. They don't agree with the Department results because the Department results shows that the past three months there were not complying. • E Matseba responded that if Map Water and the Department are not taking the results the same day, the results won't be the same. • Tshame WWTW – The forum wanted to know why it was not complying in terms of phosphate the past three months. • Representative answered that aerators were not working, however the matter has been addressed and everything is back to normal. • Kestel WWTW – The forum wanted to know why most of the variables are not complying. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative answered that is because of the way the aerobic ponds is being constructed; all the sludge is overflowing to the big ponds. • DWA Water Sector support representative mentioned that from their site they will access the WWTW and make recommendations in order to make the WWTW operational again. Feedback will be given in the next meeting. 	
9.7	DETEA Free State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology 	
9.8	Environmental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The past three months they had lot of blockages and the list of blockages was compiled and forwarded to Map Water nothing has been done. Further indicated that next to the Clinic kids are playing with nappies due to illegal dumping happening in that area. This matter has been reported to Maluti a Phofung Municipality, Qwa-Qwa but nothing is being done. • E Matseba requested Maluti a Phofung Municipality to give a presentation in the next meeting on how they are planning to address the issue of illegal dumping which is happening next to the Clinic. 	Maluti a Phofung Municipality
10.	Water Use License Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J Mofokeng mentioned that Water Use License Status will be given in the next meeting. 	J Mofokeng
11	Pollution Incidents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report 	
12.	CMA Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Service Provider to assist in the development of the business case for Vaal CMA's has been appointed, in January they will be a meeting of all Upper Vaal forum members so that they can nominate people from all the forum in the Upper Vaal and according to different sectors to sit in a Regional Steering Committee. 	
13. 13.1 13.2	General Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Basin – the treatment is taking place at Western Basin and currently there is no decanting. • Central Basin – the treatment plant is nearing completion, it will be commissioned in February 2014. • Eastern Basin – the awarding of a tender to construct the plant is eminent and the decision can commence at anytime. • In terms of long term AMD management reports has been compiled and the Department is busy evaluating them in order to finalize approval. Pricing Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department has drafted a strategy on how they will be maintaining the infrastructure, pricing strategy has been gazetted and the Department will send stakeholders the gazetted document for comment. • The forum will be notified about the venue early 2014. 	

14.	Date of Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 February 2014- Warden Municipality Offices.	
15.	Closure <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chairperson thanked everyone for participating and adjourned the meeting.	