

MINUTES

WILGE RIVER FORUM

Tuesday 21 August 2018

Venue : Bethlehem Town Hall: Dihlabeng Municipality

10:00 – 13:00



No	Item	Action
1.	WELCOME <ul style="list-style-type: none">The acting Chairperson welcomed all attendees.	L Ramulwela
2.	INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES <ul style="list-style-type: none">All attendees introduced themselves.	all
3.	APOLOGIES <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ephraim Matseba-Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)Jargo Van Wyk- Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)Noe Malise- Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)Nokukhanya Radebe-Mafube Local Municipality (LM)Karlien De Villiers- Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)Kagisho Molelekwa-Nketoana Local Municipality (LM)	
4.	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes were adopted as a true reflection of the previous meeting.	
5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES <ul style="list-style-type: none">L Ramulwela said that all municipalities must at least nominate two officials to attend the forum meetings in case of one official is not available. All municipalities to provide the names of two attendees to the forum secretary in the next forum.P Shibambo alluded that letters for poor attendance must be issued to the forum stakeholders as a reminder of the importance of the forum meeting. J Mofokeng to give feedback in the next forum.T Mphuthi indicated that on Item 8.5 bullet 11 (refer to the minutes dated 22 May 2018), the action plan on what need to be done on sewage works has been submitted to the executive manager to finalise before it can be forwarded to COGTA. The feedback will be given in the next forum meeting.Solid waste management will be reported by municipalities going forward. Municipalities must also invite their environmental officers responsible for their solid waste management in the forum meetings.M Tlali indicated that the letter to alert the DWS with the progress of the pollution incident that took place in Bethlehem has been drafted, and will be communicated to the department once been signed by the manager. The feedback will be given in the next forum meeting.	Municipalities J Mofokeng T Mphuthi Municipalities M Tlali
6.	ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA (no additions)	

7.	<p>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSIONS</p> <p>WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT</p>	
7.1	<p>RAND WATER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reveck Hariram presented the water quality report for the period of 01 April to 30 June 2018: • WLA (Lesotho highland Ash River Outfall) –there was unacceptable levels of <i>E.coli</i> and nitrate for this quarter. • WLB (Wilge Liebenbergsvlei @ Bethlehem) – there was elevation of fluoride and nitrate for this quarter. • WJ (Jordaanspruit below Bethlehem) –there was non-compliance of ammonia, COD, alkalinity, phosphate and elevation of conductivity due to the discharge of unacceptable effluent discharge from Bethlehem WWTWs. • WLBB (Wilge River below Bethlehem) –there was non-compliance of nitrates and elevation of COD for this quarter. • WLR (Wilge River @ Reitz) – most of the variables were acceptable for this quarter. • WL (Liebenbergsvlei River between Tweeling & Frankfort) – most of the variables were acceptable except nitrate for this quarter. • EQQ (Elands River below QwaQwa)–there was non-compliance of ammonia, alkalinity and elevation of COD for this quarter. • WE (Elands River @ Aberfeldy)–there was elevation of ammonia conductivity, alkalinity and nitrate for this quarter. • Sterk (Sterkfontein Dam) – this point is only monitored twice a year and most of variables were acceptable to ideal. • WN (Nuwejaarspruit d/s of Sterkfontein Dam) – most of the variables were acceptable except alkalinity and nitrate for this quarter. • WAH (Wilge above Harrismith) –most of variables have improved except elevation of alkalinity and nitrate for this quarter. • WH (Wilge River below Harrismith) – there was non-compliance of ammonia, alkalinity, nitrate and phosphate has improved for this quarter. • MR (Meul River downstream of Ribbokspruit) – most of variable were acceptable except elevation of phosphate. • WM (Mollen River @ Letuka) – this point was monitored twice and most of the variables were unacceptable for the first quarter. • WMW (Wilge Meul @ Waaiwater) – most of variables were acceptable to tolerable except alkalinity and nitrate for this quarter. • WC (Cornelies River below Warden) – the point was not monitored as there was no flow at the time they were sampling. • WAF (Wilge above Frankfort) – there was non-compliance of fluoride, alkalinity, nitrate and sulphate for this quarter. • WF (Wilge River @ Frankfort) – there was non-compliance of nitrate and <i>E.coli</i> for this quarter. • Bethlehem Sewage Works (S/W) – there was non-compliance of ammonia, COD and <i>Faecal coliform</i> for this quarter. • Harrismith S/W- there was non-compliance of ammonia, COD and <i>Faecal coliform</i> for this quarter due to malfunction of the sewage works. 	

7.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QwaQwa S/W- most of the variables were complying except COD for this quarter. • Tshiame S/W- there was non-compliance of ammonia, COD and <i>Faecal coliform</i> for this quarter. <p>VAAL RIVER CMA</p> <p>J Mofokeng presented the water quality results for Vaal CMA for the period of 01 April to 30 June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J Mofokeng mentioned that the water quality still remains the same as the one which was presented in the previous meeting and he will stretch more on the WWTWs which are the main sources of pollution. • Bethlehem Sewage Works (S/W) - there was non-compliance of ammonia, <i>E.coli</i> and COD for this quarter. • Harrismith S/W- there was non-compliance of ammonia, <i>E.coli</i> and COD for this quarter. • QwaQwa S/W- there was non-compliance of ammonia, phosphate and <i>E.coli</i> for this quarter. • Tshiame S/W- there was non-compliance of ammonia, COD and <i>E.coli</i> for this quarter due to malfunction of the works. • Reitz S/W- there was non-compliance of EC, ammonia, nitrate and phosphate due to malfunction of the sewage works for this quarter. • Kestell S/W- there was non-compliance of ammonia, phosphate, and <i>E.coli</i> due to the design capacity problems for this quarter. • Frankfort S/W- only one data for the month of June was analysed due to lack of flow at the final contact channel. • Tweeling oxidation ponds- the results were complying for this quarter except ammonia. • J Mofokeng indicated that the WWTWs are not complying with the conditions of the water use licences which also affecting the quality of water in Wilge Catchment. • J Mofokeng also indicated that the Department will be issuing the non-compliance letters to the municipalities who are polluting the Wilge River. • P Cindi indicated that Phumelela LM have an action plan in place to rectify the waste water problems at Warden Works. More feedback will be given in the next forum meeting. • L Ramulwela alluded that all municipalities must include action plans in their presentations in the next forum. 	<p>P Cindi</p> <p>Municipalities</p>
7.3	<p>Solid Waste Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Motaung indicated that landfill site within Bethlehem was authorise in terms of the waste act. • The waste at Bethlehem landfill it is categorised in sections for better management. • M Motaung also indicated that no boreholes were drilled at Bethlehem landfill site, but they have secured a service provider to drill the boreholes. Feedback in the next forum meeting. • M Motaung said that Bethlehem landfill site also contains of 	<p>M Motaung</p>

7.4	<p>effluent dam used for dust suppression.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monthly inspection is conducted by Dihlabeng LM and the monthly report is also available. • P Cindi asked how does Dihlabeng LM managed to get the issues around the landfill site properly managed. • M Motaung mentioned that the landfill site around Bethlehem is managed by the external service provider on their behalf to ensure an improvement. • J Mofokeng asked whether the effluent dam together with the dust suppression are authorised or not. • M Motaung indicated that those activities are not authorised. • J Mofokeng suggested that a site visit to the landfill site will give more clarity on this issue. Report back in the next forum meeting. <p>Green Drop System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P Cindi indicated that Phumelela LM has received non-compliance for not complying with requirements of the green-drop. • They have a meeting tomorrow with DWS for green drop assessment. • P Cindi indicated that the progress report will be given in the next forum meeting. 	<p>S Nyathikazi/ J Mofokeng</p> <p>P Cindi</p>
8. 8.1	<p>CATCHMENT ACTIVITIES – FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS</p> <p>PHUMELELA MUNICIPALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P Cindi gave presentation on the issues pertaining Warden WWTWs. • The presentation will be forwarded to Rand Water and DWS to upload it under the reservoir website. • P Cindi indicated that vandalism it is still a challenge at the WWTWs and they don't have security on site. • P Cindi said that most of the pump stations are not working. • P Cindi also mentioned that animals have broken the outlet sewer pipe. • The other issue is that community is disposing debris inside the sewer pipe line which also contributes to the blockages. • P Cindi also indicated that the state of the Warden WWTWs is alarming but the municipality is working on it. • P Shibambo asked where municipality will source funding to rectify the problems at the WWTWs. • P Cindi mentioned that funding will also be sourced from municipal funding schemes. 	
8.2	<p>NKETOANA MUNICIPALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without an apology. 	
8.3	<p>DIHLABENG MUNICIPALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Tlali indicated that Bethlehem WWTWs have a design capacity of the approximately 26 ML/day. • M Tlali also mentioned that the WWTWs is experiencing both mechanical and electrical challenges. • The tender was advertised for repairing the inlet works and other mechanical equipments. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tender for analysis of water samples with the laboratory was also advertised. • The municipality is currently working on the new designs for La-province pump station. • M Tlali mentioned that no water quality results are available for this quarter due to the lack of laboratory services. • M Tlali will give feedback in the next forum on the issue of sampling. • L Ramulwela mentioned that the letter to inform DWS regarding the closure of the pollution incident at Pretoriuskloof pump station must be signed by municipality and submitted to DWS before the next forum. Report back in the next forum meeting. 	<p>M Tlali</p> <p>M Tlali</p>
8.4	<p>MAFUBE MUNICIPALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative was present. 	
8.5	<p>THABO MOFUTSANYANE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative was present. 	
8.6	<p>MAP Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative was present. 	
8.7	<p>FEZILE DABI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY</p> <p>No representative attended.</p>	
8.8	<p>DETEA FREE STATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative attended. 	
8.9	<p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative attended. 	
8.10	<p>DWS-FREE STATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative was present 	
8.11	<p>Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME)</p> <p>Compliance monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K Ndindwa mentioned that audit at Harrismith WWTWs was conducted in June 2018, the report of the audit was submitted to Maluti A Phofung, and the department is still waiting for an action plan. • K Ndindwa also mentioned that municipality is not adhering to the timeframes of the audits conducted and non-compliance of the water use licence it is an offence. • P Shibambo indicated that co-operative governance is important within the spheres of government, therefore municipalities should also respect the mandate of other government departments. <p>Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S Nyathikazi indicated that long term intervention is already in place, this tool will assist DWS with monitoring the municipalities for non-compliance. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> S Nyathikazi indicated that feedback will be given in the next forum on the inspections that will be attended in the next quarter. 	
9.	<p>WATER USE LICENCE STATUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> J Mofokeng mentioned that the report can be accessed under the reservoir website. C Kleynhans asked about the Spilsbury and Nketoana WULA status. J Mofokeng indicated that DWS is still waiting for outstanding information of Nketoana application from the applicant. The Spilsbury application is still in progress and more feedback will be given in the next forum meeting. 	J Mofokeng
10	<p>POLLUTION INCIDENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> J Mofokeng mentioned that municipalities must report pollution incidents to the Department as required by conditions of water use licence. J Mofokeng also mentioned that pollution around QwaQwa area is alarming and Maluti A Phofung (MAP) must attend to this issue as required by the act and also a water use licence conditions. The non-compliance letter will also be issued to MAP for pollution of the Wilge River. Report back in the next forum. 	J Mofokeng
11.	<p>CMA PROCESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report back will be given in the next forum meeting. 	
12	<p>DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No discussions were added. 	
13.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>20 November 2018, Thabo Mofutsanyane District Office: QwaQwa.</p>	
14.	<p>CLOSURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The acting chairperson thanked everyone & the meeting adjourned at 12H00. 	