



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement
Western Cape Provincial Parliament
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

Ref: WCPP 11/4/8

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING**

Tuesday 28 February 2023 (at 13:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

America, D
Murray, CA
Van der Westhuizen, AP (Chairperson)

African National Congress

Marran, P

GOOD

August, SN

Apology

Mr A Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

The following persons were in attendance:

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Mr G Gerber, Head of Department
Ms K Shippey, Chief Director - Environmental Sustainability
Ms M Laros, Director - Biodiversity and Coastal Management

CapeNature

Ms C Birss, Executive Director - Biodiversity Capabilities
Mr B Barnes, General Manager - Strategy, Governance and Risk

Office of the Premier

Mr L van der Schyff, State Law Adviser

South African Local Government Association (Western Cape) - SALGA

Cllr G Combrink

Cllr C Punt

Mr L Njamela, Advisor - Intergovernmental Relations and Strategic Relations

WCPP Officials

Ms S Niekerk, Procedural Officer

Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant

Mr S Hassam, Information Technology Assistant

Ms C Morris, Information Technology Assistant

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the Departmental and CapeNature officials, representatives from SALGA, and the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

2. Briefing by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning on the implementation of the Western Cape Biodiversity Act, 2021 (Act 6 of 2021) and the associated Regulations

The Department provided the Committee with background information pertaining to the Western Cape Biodiversity Act and explained the phased implementation approach of certain sections of the Act.

The Department further informed the Committee of the drafting of the associated regulations that were ongoing, and that these needed to be aligned to the developing national policy, law and other regulations. Key outputs required by the Act were expanded upon. Key considerations within the context of the Act on a global, national and provincial level were highlighted and explained.

The Committee deliberated.

3. Resolutions/Actions

The Committee REQUESTED that the Department provides it with:

- 3.1 The timeframe for the first round of stakeholder engagements on the regulations and an update in terms of the outcome of these engagements after the first round of engagements in August 2023;
- 3.2 A copy of the draft regulations before publication; and
- 3.3 Further detail on the public engagement process, with specific reference to the list of stakeholder groups that were identified by the Department and CapeNature as organised and less organised sectors.

3. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of the meetings held on 28 November 2022 at 12:00 and 28 November 2022 at 14:00, which were considered and adopted.

4. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Quarterly Report

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Quarterly Report (September – December 2022), which was considered and adopted.

5. General

5.1 The Procedural Officer informed the Committee that responses to Committee resolutions emanating from the oversight visit to the West Coast pertaining to mining activities, the Cluster B Visit Week in September 2022, as well as the Annual Report 2021/22 discussions were received and circulated to members. She requested members to peruse the responses and to highlight areas where further clarity was required so that this could be communicated to the respective departments and entities.

5.3 The Procedural Officer further informed the Committee of the next two Committee meetings that were scheduled to take place on 15 March 2023 at 9:00 and 14:00 respectively.

5.2 The Chairperson informed the Committee that the construction work of the Brandvlei Canal has now been completed. The Committee had previously conducted an oversight visit to the Canal and followed the progress of this project diligently.

5.2.1 The Committee RESOLVED to:

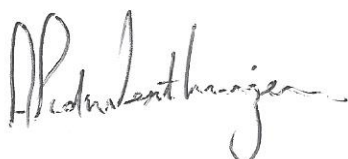
5.2.1.1 Undertake an oversight visit to the completed Brandvlei Canal Project to engage with the relevant stakeholders on the benefit of the project and whether there are any concerns; and

5.2.1.2 Send a letter of appreciation to the Department of Water and Sanitation for the completion of the Project.

6. Closing

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members, the Departmental and CapeNature officials as well as the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 14:15.



**MR AP VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, MPP CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Date: ...11 April 2023.....