



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 11 April 2023 (at 13:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams*

**PRESENT**

**Members**

**Democratic Alliance**

America, D  
Maseko, LM (Alternate)  
Van der Westhuizen, AP (Chairperson)

**African National Congress**

Marran, P

**GOOD**

August, SN

**Freedom Front Plus**

Marais, PJ

**Apology**

Murray, CA

**The following persons were in attendance:**

**Department of Agriculture**

Mr D Jacobs, Deputy Director-General - Agricultural Development Support Services  
Mr P Keuck, Chief Engineer - Sustainable Resource Use and Management  
Ms A Petersen, Director - Sustainable Resource Use and Management  
Dr S Midgely, Scientist - Climate Change and Risk Assessment

## **Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning**

Mr G Arendse, Chief Director - Environmental Quality  
Ms C Bill, Director - Pollution Management  
Mr Z Brown, Acting Director – Pollution and Chemicals Management  
Ms M Kunneke, Task Manager - Berg River Improvement Project

## **Department of Local Government**

Mr M Brandt, Director - Municipal Infrastructure  
Mr J Harvey, Project Manager – Infrastructure Resilience

## **National Department of Water and Sanitation**

Mr D Daniels, Deputy Director

### **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 officials, representatives from the Department of Local Government and the national Department of Water and Sanitation, as well as the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

### **2. Briefing by the Department of Agriculture on Water Management in Agriculture and the advances that have been made in this regard**

The Department briefed the Committee on water consumption management in agriculture with reference to ways in which to maximise the efficient use of water. Specific reference was made to water governance and water management institutions. Agricultural water use and risks to water security were highlighted. The SmartAgri Plan, a response to the Western Cape Climate Change Response Framework and Implementation Plan for the Agricultural Sector (2016), as well as the River Protection Works that focused on infrastructure investment and delivery were expanded upon.

The Department also highlighted its response to the risk, mitigation and adaptation measures to sustainably manage water resources from source to point and explained how irrigation agriculture contributed significantly to job creation and agricultural exports in the province. The Department reiterated that the management of water availability and quality had a direct impact on food security.

Invasive alien vegetation clearing was discussed with a focus on water losses from dams, conveyance systems and irrigation systems. Further focus was placed on irrigation scheduling technologies such as Fruitlook. The Department concluded its presentation by providing a summary of the Water Indaba that was held recently.

The Committee deliberated and the Departments of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Local Government and the national Department of Water and Sanitation responded to the Committee's questions.

**3. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes**

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of 28 February 2023, 15 March 2023 at 09:00 and 15 March 2023 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 (January – March 2023), which was considered and adopted.

**5. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Tracking Document**

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Tracking Document as at 11 April 2023 for the 2022/23 financial year, which was considered and adopted.

**6. General**

The Procedural Officer provided the Committee with an update on the arrangements for the International Study Visit to California taking place in May 2023.

**7. Closing**

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the Members for the interest shown in the topic and for active participation. The Chairperson further expressed appreciation to the Departments, particularly the national Department, as well as the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 16:10.



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

Date: .....25 April 2023.....