



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

Ref: WCPP 11/6/10

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

*Wednesday 11 March 2026 (at 13:00)
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams*

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Bryant, DW
Masipa, NP (Chairperson)
Mbombo, N
Van Wyk, LD (Additional)
Wessels, DJ

African National Congress

Stoffel, B (Additional)
Nkondlo, ND

Patriotic Alliance

Adans, BM

Al Jama-ah

Brinkhuis, G

The following persons were in attendance:

Ministry of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism

Dr I Meyer, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism

Department of Agriculture

Dr M Sebopetsa, Head of Department
Ms B Matoti, Acting Deputy Director-General - Agricultural Research and Regulatory Services
Dr G Msiza, Chief Director - Veterinary Services
Dr N Magadla, Director - Animal Health

Casidra

Dr K du Plessis, Chief Executive Officer
Mr D Nefdt, Chief Programme Officer
Mr R Strydom, Senior Project Manager - Farm Support

Media

Ms I Schoonraad, George Herald

Ms M van der Spuy, Landbou Weekblad

WCPP Officials

Ms S Niekerk, Procedural Officer

Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant

Ms A Mtimkulu, Researcher

Mr S Hassam, Information Technology Assistant

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the Minister, Head of Department, and departmental officials, and those who were watching the live proceedings on YouTube. A special welcome was extended to Mr Adams of the Patriotic Alliance, who joined the Committee.

2. Briefing by the Department of Agriculture on the status of Foot and Mouth Disease in the Western Cape

The Department of Agriculture briefed the Committee on the latest Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) situation, reporting new outbreaks in several areas of the Western Cape and confirming that affected dairy herds had been prioritised for vaccination.

The Committee was informed that the total number of FMD cases nationally stood at 1 040, with eight cases recorded in the province. Members were further advised that a two-pronged vaccination strategy, comprising rapid containment and pre-emptive vaccination, had been implemented.

The Department outlined its 21-point action plan, which included measures relating to movement control, surveillance, biosecurity, and recovery interventions. It also reported that a provincial war room had been established in collaboration with industry partners to coordinate the response.

The Committee was informed that South Africa faced a critical shortage of veterinarians due to limited national training capacity, emigration of skilled professionals, and constitutional constraints preventing provinces from addressing the capacity gap. This shortage posed a risk to effective animal health management, including major disease outbreaks such as FMD.

The Committee was further informed that 29 private veterinarians had been approved to administer vaccinations, and that risk-based vaccine allocation was currently underway. The Department emphasised the need for heightened vigilance in the lead up to the Easter weekend, given the economic significance of the livestock sector to the province.

The Committee deliberated.

3. Resolutions

- 3.1 The Committee REQUESTED that the Department of Agriculture obtain quarterly updates from district municipalities on FMD awareness campaigns, including the number of small-scale farmers invited or reached through these initiatives, and provide this information to the Committee.
- 3.2 The Committee RESOLVED that it, on a quarterly basis, would invite:
- 3.2.1 The Department of Agriculture to brief it on the status of the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease for as long as the matter remains a concern; and
- 3.2.2 The Joint Operations Centre and affected municipalities to brief it on their role in coordinating and supporting the response to the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak, including assessing municipal capacity and reviewing relevant by-laws affecting informal livestock farming.
- 3.3 The Committee FURTHER RESOLVED that it would invite:
- 3.3.1 The Department of Agriculture to brief it on the broader economic impact of the outbreak of the disease, as well as the impact on the livestock sector and the potential transmission risks within the livestock transport system; and
- 3.3.2 The National Department of Agriculture to brief it on veterinary training and national capacity constraints.

4. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes

The Chairperson submitted that Draft Committee Minutes of 5 and 8 December 2025 which were considered and adopted.

5. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Quarterly Report (October – December 2025)

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Report which was considered and adopted.

6. Closing

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members, the Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism, the Head of Department and officials, for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 15:32.



MR NP MASIPA, MPP
CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Date: 12 May 2026