

Friday, 26 June 2026]

No 58 - 2026] THIRD SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FRIDAY, 26 JUNE 2026

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Minister of Mobility

Provincial Notice 139 of 2026: Western Cape Department of Mobility: Registration and Licence Fees for Motor Vehicles Regulations, 2026. Published in the *Provincial Gazette Extraordinary* 9248, dated 9 June 2026.

Copy attached.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Report of the Standing Committee on Infrastructure on the filling of vacancies for the Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal

The Standing Committee on Infrastructure, having considered the shortlist of candidates to serve on the Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2029, reports as follows:

1. The Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal currently has six vacancies. The positions of chairperson, ordinary members and alternate members have become available following the expiry of the current members' terms.

Section 9(1) of the Rental Housing Act, 1999 (Act 50 of 1999), stipulates: "The Tribunal consists of not less than three and not more than five members, who are fit and proper persons appointed by the MEC, and must comprise (a) a chairperson, who is suitably qualified and has the necessary expertise and exposure to rental housing matters; (b) not than two and not more than four members, of whom (i) at least one and not more than two shall be persons with expertise in property management or housing development matters; and (ii) at least one and not more

than two shall be persons with expertise in consumer matters pertaining to rental housing or housing development matters;”.

2. Advertisements calling for nominations for the positions of chairperson, ordinary members and alternate members were published in the following publications:

<i>Cape Argus:</i>	30 October 2025
<i>Die Burger:</i>	30 October 2025
<i>Government Gazette:</i>	24 October 2025
<i>Vukani:</i>	30 October 2025
Social media:	30 and 31 October 2025

3. Upon conclusion of the advertisement process, the Department of Infrastructure provided the Committee with a shortlist of candidates for the vacancies. The Committee, having considered these nominations, resolved to recommend that a chairperson, ordinary members and alternate members be appointed to serve on the Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal and to recommend further as follows in this regard:

- 3.1 That Mr SC Poole be considered as the first preference for the Chairperson’s position and Ms L Venter/Jolly as the Deputy Chairperson position;
- 3.2 That Ms A Arendse and Ms C Fani must be considered as ordinary members; and
- 3.3 That Ms F Lempereur and Mr M Madebuka must be considered as alternate members.

2. **Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism on its oversight visit to the Waaikraal Farm on 27 February 2026, as follows:**

Delegation

The delegation consisted of the following Members:

Brinkhuis, G (Al Jama-ah)
 Constable, N (PA)
 Masipa, NP (DA) (Chairperson)
 Mbombo, N (DA)
 Nkondlo, ND (ANC)
 Stoffel, B (ANC)
 Wessels, DJ (DA)

An apology was received from Member Bryant (DA).

Ms Niekerk (Procedural Officer) and Ms Mshumpela (Committee Assistant) accompanied the Committee.

1. Introduction and background

Section 114 (2)(b)(i) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa mandates provincial legislatures to provide for mechanisms to maintain oversight over the provincial executive authority in the province.

There were many discussions in committee meetings regarding the Amalienstein and Waaikraal farms and the Committee compiled resolutions in this regard that were communicated to the Ministry of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism, the Department of Agriculture and Casidra.

The Committee requested to be briefed on the operational status and productivity; financial sustainability and funding; staffing and labour conditions; community engagement and land reform; risk management and challenges; infrastructure and capital investment; role in food security and community development; plans and exit strategy partnerships; funding models; and impact assessments or audits for the farms. The Committee was also keen to determine how the Spatial Development Framework was being implemented at the Amalienstein and Waaikraal farms, particularly in relation to integrated rural development, environmental sustainability and effective land use.

On 12 February 2026 the Committee received correspondence from the Department of Agriculture stating that the Western Cape province was currently managing an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), which posed a significant risk to farms with livestock, particularly cloven-hoofed animals, that served as carriers of the disease. Considering this situation, the Department requested that the Committee reconsider the planned visit to the Amalienstein farm, as the presence of 120 dairy cows increased the risk of potential exposure and could adversely affect the dairy production operations on the farm.

The Department proposed that the briefing for both state farms be convened at the Oudtshoorn Research Farm on Friday 27 February 2026, followed by an on-site visit to the Waaikraal state farm only. Amalienstein, being a dairy farm, remained particularly vulnerable to FMD risks, and a visit at this time was not advisable. The Committee agreed to the proposal and will be visiting the Amalienstein farm at another time. The meeting therefore focused mostly on the Waaikraal Farm and, where relevant, reference was made to the Amalienstein Farm.

2. Overview

The visit commenced at the Oudtshoorn Research Farm where the Committee was welcome and briefed by the Department of Agriculture (the Department) and Casidra on the Waaikraal Farm. The national Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD), the provincial Department of Infrastructure and a representative from the community were also in attendance. The Committee proceeded to the Waaikraal Farm in Dysselsdorp that included a visit to the dam to observe the site conditions.

2.1 Findings

2.1.1 The Waaikraal Farm, located near Dysselsdorp, was a provincially owned agricultural property comprising two operational units, namely Waaikraal and the Le Roux Plaas, situated approximately 5 km apart. The farm consisted of 213 land parcels originally acquired in 1983 by the former House of Representatives to create agricultural employment opportunities.

The consolidated farm covered approximately 772,4 ha, largely owned by the Western Cape Government, although certain parcels involved undivided share arrangements. It was further noted that erf 183, Dysselsdorp, remained under national government ownership. Waaikraal was earmarked for future transfer to the DLRRD, following the same legislated intergovernmental disposal process applied to Amalienstein.

- 2.1.2. Waaikraal generated approximately R2 million in sales in the 2024/25 financial year. However, high input and operational costs resulted in a deficit of approximately R2,649 million prior to departmental support. The Department provided R2,6 million in support funding, and a temporary inter-farm loan of R300 000 from Amalienstein assisted in stabilising cash flow, enabling the farm to close the financial year with a surplus of approximately R250 000.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the profit margins and financial assumptions underpinning the turnaround model and requested improved financial transparency across the farms.

The Committee further noted that long-term sustainability would depend on expanding the lucerne production footprint, restoring irrigation capacity through dam repairs, diversifying production into livestock and other crops, and strengthening security and infrastructure. In this regard, it was noted that a capital investment programme of approximately R15,5 million over five years would be required to address infrastructure and mechanisation needs.

- 2.1.3 Waaikraal, unlike Amalienstein, does not yet have a registered Communal Property Association (CPA). A community panel was currently functioning, and a draft CPA constitution had been developed following several public invitations for participation. Approximately 115 prospective members were identified based on criteria such as an interest in agriculture and residency in Dysselsdorp. The DLRRD indicated that the CPA registration should not proceed until the land allocation process was clearer to avoid establishing a structure without land. Waaikraal was currently at Phase 1 of the provincial disposal process, and progress was complicated by undivided land shares and fragmented land parcels, which made consolidation and mapping more difficult.

- 2.1.4 Waaikraal supported farmer days, training, household gardens and some social initiatives. Staffing comprised 1 supervisor, 12 general workers and 30 to 60 seasonal workers. Concerns were raised regarding employee compensation and reports that Community Work Programme or Expanded Public Works Programme participants may be substituting formal employment. The Committee was assured that such participants were engaged on a limited basis for skills development and were not used as a replacement for the core workforce. Transparency in human resource practices was emphasised.

- 2.1.5 Key risks identified during the discussions included security challenges (theft and vandalism), stray animals and FMD risks, rising input costs, water insecurity and drought conditions, and market price volatility for lucerne.

Mitigation measures included improved fencing, community patrols, bulk procurement strategies and dam rehabilitation initiatives.

- 2.1.6 With regard to Amalienstein, the Committee noted that the project's primary objective extended beyond financial sustainability and was aimed at securing long-term socio-economic benefits for beneficiary communities, particularly the Zoar community. The CPA model served as the legal mechanism for collective land ownership and management, and the Zoar CPA was established and formally recognised as the intended landholding entity.

The Committee noted that the Zoar CPA still required continued governance support, capacity development and institutional strengthening prior to land

transfer. The DLRRD emphasised that land transfer should not be undertaken prematurely, as insufficient governance readiness could compromise long-term sustainability.

The Committee acknowledged the progress made in stabilising governance at Amalienstein, including the transition from a previously dysfunctional Trust to a functional CPA that was holding regular annual general meetings and receiving ongoing support and training. It was further noted that a 2013 community resolution confirmed that the land would vest in the Zoar CPA.

Discussions were underway regarding the establishment of a separate operational entity to manage farming activities post-transfer, given the scale of the farm (exceeding 7 000 ha). The land transfer process was progressing through an intergovernmental disposal model (Province to DLRRD to the CPA), with Amalienstein currently at an advanced stage (Phase 5), placing it significantly ahead of Waaikraal.

- 2.1.7 The Committee expressed concern regarding the projected timelines of four to five years for land transfer and emphasised the need to reduce delays where feasible, given the prolonged waiting period experienced by beneficiary communities.
- 2.1.8 The Committee noted that the transfer of Amalienstein and Waaikraal represented a significant test case for provincially owned agricultural land reform. The success of the initiative depended on effective community governance, sustained agricultural productivity and the ability to address current operational challenges.

3. Resolutions

- 3.1 The Committee REQUESTED that the Department of Agriculture provide it with:
 - 3.1.1 An indicative timeline for the completion of each phase of the disposal process, including the transfer of the properties from the Western Cape Government to the DLRRD and ultimately to the CPA; and
 - 3.1.2 Documented lessons learnt that detailed the complexities and delays related to the transfer of these farms to inform future land reform initiatives.
- 3.2 The Committee FURTHER REQUESTED that the Department of Agriculture provide it with:
 - 3.2.1 A comprehensive report on the historical and current assets associated with Amalienstein Farm, including agricultural equipment, machinery, and infrastructure. The report must clarify the asset register and custodianship, including assets under the Western Cape Department of Infrastructure; and
 - 3.2.2 Biannual progress reports on the implementation of the Waaikraal and Amalienstein turnaround strategies, including updates on production expansion, diversification, infrastructure rehabilitation and progress towards financial sustainability and reduced reliance on state funding.
- 3.3 The Committee REQUESTED that the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development provides it with:

- 3.3.1 Clarity regarding the definition and identification of beneficiaries and community, including criteria for CPA membership and processes used to determine participation; and
 - 3.3.2 The Zoar CPA constitution, forward planning and transfer documentation, and the tenure report identifying farm resident households and their rights.
- 3.4 The Committee RECOMMENDED that:
- 3.4.1 The Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Department of Infrastructure and the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, engage on options to expedite and streamline the land transfer process, in light of concerns regarding prolonged waiting periods and timelines of four to five years; and facilitate a joint community engagement session in Zoar with the Zoar CPA to present the land transfer process and provide clarity through an open and coordinated platform; and
 - 3.4.2 Relevant departments ensure that appropriate agreements are in place where water resources pass through privately owned land to safeguard agricultural operations and secure lawful access to water.

4. Acknowledgement

The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, the Department of Infrastructure and all stakeholders for their participation and cooperation during the oversight visit. The Committee further acknowledged the valuable contributions of the farm management and community representatives whose engagement provided important insights into both the challenges and opportunities associated with the Amalienstein and Waaikraal farms.