

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

Ref: 11/4/1/2/11

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Tuesday, 19 May 2020 (at 13:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Baartman, DM Maseko, LM Van der Westhuizen, AP (Chairperson)

African National Congress

Marran, P (ANC)

Freedom Front Plus

Marais, PJ

The following persons were in attendance:

Ministry of Agriculture

Dr I Meyer: Minister of Agriculture Ms M van Jaarsveld: Head of Ministry

Department of Agriculture

Dr M Sebopetsa: Head of Department

Mr D Jacobs: Deputy Director-General - Agricultural Development Support Services

Mr F Huysamer: Chief Financial Officer

Mr J Aries: Chief Director - Farmer Support and Development Ms R Wentzel: Chief Director - Operational Support Services

Dr G Masiya: Chief Director - Veterinary Services

Dr I Trautman: Chief Director - Research and Technology Development
Ms H Rodkin: Chief Director - Structured Agricultural Education and Training

Ms A Petersen: Director - Sustainable Resource Management

Ms B Matoti: Director - Agricultural Economic Services
Dr D Troskie: Director - Business Planning and Strategy
Mr D Chitepo: Acting Director - Rural Development

<u>Casidra</u>

Mr F van Zyl: Acting Chief Executive Officer

Mr M Silevu: Chief Officer - Technical Mr D Nefdt: Chief Officer - Projects

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the Departmental officials and Casidra. The Chairperson informed the meeting that the Minister of Agriculture had informed him that he would be joining the meeting later due to a prior commitment.

The Chairperson explained the meeting procedure for video conferencing as well as the format that the meeting would follow.

2. Briefing by the Department of Agriculture and Casidra on its respective five year Strategic Plans (2020 – 2025)

The Department of Agriculture provided the Committee with a briefing on its five year Strategic Plan with specific reference to the impact of Covid-19, the Medium Term Expenditure Framework Budget and the various programme plans and responses. Risks were identified and strategic outcomes and sub-outcomes were highlighted. Emphasis was placed on the various programmes within the Department focusing on strengths, opportunities and strategic projects planned for the years 2020 – 2024.

Casidra provided the Committee with a briefing on its Strategic Plan with specific reference to its strategic priorities and strategic outcome-orientated goals. The Medium Term Strategic Framework priorities were outlined as well as potential risks and mitigating factors. Emphasis was placed on the management of the Amalienstein and Waaikraal farms.

The Committee deliberated.

The Committee expressed its concern regarding the strategic goals of Casidra and the limited resources at their disposal to achieve these goals. Further concern was expressed by the Committee on the financial and economic viability of the Amalienstein and Waaikraal farms.

3. Resolutions/Actions

- 3.1 The Committee RESOLVED that, as the Committee took a resolution following the oversight visit to both farms to meet with relevant stakeholders regarding the viability of the farms, it would prioritise this matter on its Committee Programme.
- 3.2 The Committee RECOMMENDED that the Department of Agriculture undertake an independent evaluation of the state of the Amalienstein and Waaikraal farms and report to

the Committee, as per the afore-mentioned resolution, on the financial viability and sustainability of these farms.

4. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of 5 May 2020, which were considered and adopted.

5. Consideration and adoption Draft Committee Programme

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Programme as at 19 May 2020, which was considered and adopted.

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members, minister, the officials from the Department of Agriculture and Casidra as well as the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament for their contributions to the success of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 16:16.

MR AP VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Date:12 June 2020.....