

MAP FORUM MEETING

MORELETA / APIES / PIENAARS RIVER SUB-CATCHMENT

Date : 15 NOVEMBER 2022 (TUESDAY)

Time : 10:00 - 11:45

Venue : DWS TRAINING CENTRE, ROODEPLAAT

Chair: Ms. Erica Bergman

Scribe: Mrs. Louise Pretorius



ITEM	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
1.	WELCOME	The chair Erica Bergman welcomed attendees and reported that there are some changes to the agenda.	
2.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES	An attendance register was circulated. The meeting was attended by: Erica Bergman, Louise Pretorius, Flip Joubert, C.J. Erasmus, T. Mashane, M. Dlamini, Mike Plisic, Sam Thobejane, Esmay Madumo, Fred Malleson, Marc Leroy, Tsheamo Mogale, Mpho Kaeli, Pule Makena, David Ntsowe, Grant van Wyk, Rudolf van den Berg, Petrus Venter, Mathilda Chiloane, Stephens Notoane, Hangwi Akinwekom, Kobus Fell, Selwyn Jackson, Mathabo Phoka, Stephen Moore, Rodney Genricks. Apologies were received from Kerneels Esterhuysen, Gene Fourie, Simon Mojapelo, Abel Malaka, Peter Sutton, Daryl Johnston, Thandiwe Booysen, Susan Lottering, Ntombizodwa Mhlathi.	
3.	RATIFICATION OF AGENDA		
4.	PREVIOUS MINUTES	Accepted without change. It was reported that not everyone received the minutes. Erica clarified that minutes are loaded under the calendar items, to simplify correspondence.	
5.	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION		
5.1	WASTEWATER TREATMENT		
5.1.1	Rooiwal	<u>Maintenance</u> David Ntsowe provided a comprehensive account of Phase 1 upgrades. The refurbishment of the emptied reactor, airpipes and diffusers, secondary settlement tanks, valves are not completed because the Phase 1 contract was not completed. Council has appointed a new contractor and once the reactor is put into operation should provide an extra 20ML of capacity. The contract on maintenance is completed so they are ready to commission the reactor. Inlet screens are all working. He reported that abnormally large objects (dogs, engine blocks, etc) are thrown into the sewage system which often damage the inlet screens. They will install more robust screens further upstream to protect the inlet works. Designs are completed. These will be operated manually.	COT

		<p>3 Primary settlements tanks on the Northern Works are completed and in operation. 6 on the Eastern Works are completed and the remaining 2 are in process. East Works will not be fully operational yet, centre columns and bearings need to be repaired but in the maintenance plan (16 of them). When done, this plant will be fully operational.</p> <p>Electrical and mechanical assessment was done by a team of artisans. They electrical work is easy to repair, but the mechanical work is not. The mechanical contract value can change significantly as one needs to open up components to know what needs to be done. The plans will be used to request maintenance finding.</p> <p>Polymers used in belt presses are in place.</p> <p>Belt presses used for sludge dewatering (4 of 5 working at lower presses and 2 of 4 working at upper presses).</p> <p>Erica thanked David for feedback on the repairs they have undertaken and emphasised the importance of maintenance as part of a project. She observed that the issue of maintenance was also discussed at a previous meeting and pointed out that they spend a lot of money on new capital projects, but unless such work is maintained, we won't win the battle. She thanked the Department for focusing on maintenance and indicated that their efforts are much appreciated.</p> <p><u>Consultants</u></p> <p>Stephens indicated that Council has escalated engagement with the Consultants through their EPMU office. He explained that there were two issues, namely they are claiming for work that was not completed, and they are not producing the adjusted scope of works.</p> <p>The Legal Team is now involved, and Council has put them on terms. Feedback was to be given by the 9th but Stephens is not aware of the outcome. Stephens expected that the contract will be terminated.</p> <p>Erica responded that there are consultants from various companies who can assist Council. There are many well-qualified people in this country, and it might be worthwhile to use their expertise. Erica proposed that Council should have a group of experts to advise them on technical aspects.</p> <p><u>Blowers</u></p> <p>Cobus Fell asked whether they are aware of it that blowers at Rooiwal have been out of commission for more than a week and that without the blowers it is no use running a plant. David indicated that they are aware of it and explained that this was due to rotary problems. It was reported to him that the contractor could not get spares over the weekend. Cobus indicated that the information he has is different form the report received from the officials.</p>	
5.1.2	Other	<p>Cobus requested compliance figures at the next meeting for Baviaanspoort and Sunderland Ridge.</p> <p>Pule Makena of Ekurhuleni Council asked why the MAP Forum are interested in this information, as this feeds into the Hennops River. Cobus stated this is for budget planning. Erica stated that Sunderland Ridge is one of the four worst performing treatment plants in Tshwane, and all the Forums work together. Tshwane is affected by outflow from Ekurhuleni. Erica referred Pule to Mr Flip Joubert, who completed a pilot wetland water treatment works that treats inflow water to the Olifantsfontein WWTW in Ekurhuleni.</p>	<p>Stephens Notoane</p> <p>Pule Makena/Flip Joubert</p>

5.2	Monitoring	<p><u>Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)</u></p> <p>Cobus explained that he represents the National Water Monitor that studies the plants' productivity, as well as the invasive aquatic species. They requested access to the plants to get 1st hand information. He stated that this is not to interfere with the processes, but to monitor and confirm information received from the officials. NWM has requested a Memorandum of Understanding from MMC Johnston to support this. The aim is that information reported is up to date and to prevent disputes.</p> <p>David explained that there is an office in the City that deals with MOUs. It goes out for comments and MAICO for approval before this can be issued. David will follow up on this issue.</p>	David Ntsowe
5.3	Water reclamation and reuse for SA Municipal engineers	<p>IMESA (International Federation of Municipal Engineering) presented a conference on the Water Reclamation and Reuse Guide for South African Municipal Engineers. Erica attended the pre-conference workshop, presented by the Universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch.</p> <p>It was reported that the places where they have success with water management are those where they have people who assist the city as consultants, even overseas experts assist. She reiterated that this is very much what the MOU is about. She urged Tshwane to find a support system that can assist the city in making decisions. Although officials are working hard and funds are limited, there are other ways of doing things and we can learn from each other. There are a lot of competent people who can offer advice and assist with planning.</p> <p>Stephens agreed that the exchange of ideas have been beneficial to all in the past.</p>	Stephens Notoane
6. PIENAARS RIVER CATCHMENT			
6.1	Rehabilitation of Roodeplaat dam	<p>Cobus reported that he met with the Tshwane Environmental Department at Roodeplaat Dam and the Delegation from Denmark. He stated that they were concerned with the state of disrepair and poor management at the dam and Baviaanspoort, hyacinths. Erica indicated that she is meeting with them on the 17th. They are currently in South Africa regarding funding for upgrades at wastewater treatment works.</p>	
6.2	Hyacinth control	<p>Grant van Wyk reported that they designed a system whereby they remove hyacinths using a net. They have cleaned more than 50 dams in different parts of the world with the netting system. He indicated that they clean about 4 - 6 hectares a day without any machines.</p> <p>Cobus mentioned that we have three enemies: hyacinths, water quality, and the Departments of Water and Sanitation and Forestry, Fishing and the Environment. He explained that they have a similar system in place and discussed the obstacles they face. He remarked that there is no cooperation from the departments whatsoever.</p> <p>Petrus Venter mentioned that we should not focus only on what went wrong. He referred to the 5-point plan, which include commitments to stop spraying, removal of alien vegetation, etc. The Covid lockdown period led to delays and biological control has been proven to be affective. He emphasised that the hyacinths grow by stimulus and this is causing the out-of-control growth. The stimulus of the hyacinths needs to be managed and the management method need to be adjusted. Cobus stated that the local community is not getting any support from the authorities.</p> <p>Pele stated that alternative methods should be discussed and that authorities should be open to ideas from others.</p>	<p>Cobus Fell</p> <p>Petrus Venter</p> <p>Selwyn Jackson</p> <p>Marc Leroy</p> <p>Grant van Wyk</p>

		<p>Erica suggested that a committee should be formed to investigate the issues. Cobus stated that in accordance with the Dam Management Plan a Dam Management Committee must be put in place.</p> <p>Cobus volunteered to get the committee going. It was suggested that Petrus Venter (DWS) should be involved and requested that he approach DEFF to get them on board. Selwyn Jackson should be on the committee, as well as Mark Leroy and his department. It was suggested to get the lodges to assist. Cobus to set up a date for the Dam Management Committee to meet, investigate various methods and ways to tackle the challenges.</p> <p>It was stated that the sludge is still coming into the dam from Zeekoegat (4 failures last year). Stephens responded that failure of dewatering plant at has been attended to but rehabilitation has not been done. Repairs are needed but in process. Stephens to email a written report to Erica to include in the minutes.</p>	<p>Lutske Newton</p> <p>DEFF</p> <p>Stephens Notoane</p>
6.3	17th International Conference on Wetland Systems for Water Pollution Control	<p>Flip Joubert reported on the 17th International Conference on Wetland Systems for Water Pollution Control, held in Lyon, France from 6 to 10 November 2022. It is a bi-annual conference series that acts as a global forum for discussion and knowledge sharing on the state of the art in scientific and practical development and implementation of natural and constructed wetlands. The conference also addressed other nature-based solutions for providing water-quality improvement and other co-benefits and ecosystem services.</p> <p>Flip briefly discussed wetlands for water pollution control, water reuse and resource recovery, climate change and adaptation, emerging contaminants, carbon capture, social awareness, policy and planning, new developments, hybrid and urban wetlands and circular cities.</p> <p>The EU is preparing documentation on the different classes of treated wastewater for different uses, particularly in the agricultural field. Flip reported that circular economies and circular cities came through strongly, as well as stormwater reuse and stormwater treatment. In Europe they're planning to recharge aquifers with wastewater.</p>	
7.	WATER QUALITY MONITORING		
7.1	Walker Spruit Rehabilitation Plan	Erica reminded the Forum that Susan Lottering of Tshwane's Pollution Control Department presenting on water quality in the Apies River at the last meeting. It was clear that that a lot of pollution comes in from Walker Spruit. A rehabilitation plan has prepared for Walker Spruit, which will presented early next year.	
7.2	COT Indust Effluent and Pollution Control	Mathilda Chiloane of COT Industrial Effluent and Pollution Control Division indicated that they were having technical difficulties computers and her presentation will stand over until next year.	Matilda Chiloane
8.	SECURITY PLAN FOR TSHWANE	Erica reported on an innovative security plan for Tshwane where public and private sectors work together. The plan is ward-based, and funding will be through the private sector, business, and insurance companies. She requested that Tshwane provide her with a list of 20 vulnerable sites for consideration.	MMC Daryl Johnston / Stephen Moore
9.	DATES OF MEETINGS	2023: 17 January 21 February, 18 April, 20 June, 15 August, 17 October	
10.	CLOSURE	Erica declared the meeting closed and thanked the members for their attendance and participation.	