
SOUTHERN AFRICA REVENUE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: 5 August 2015

TIME: 16h00-19h00

VENUE: Protea Hotel Nelspruit

MEMBERS:

Rhode, Michael	President	Knysna	Apology
Maphaka, Maboe	President Elect/Gauteng Chair	Eskom	Present
Olivier, William	Imm Past President	Ekurhuleni	Apology
Lelaka, Malesela	Past President	Eskom	Apology
Louw, Deon	Past President	Drakenstein Municipality	Apology
Gower, Chris	Past President/Eastern Cape	Buffalo City Municipality	Present
De Vries, Paul	W Cape Branch Chair	Drakenstein	Apology
Mpande, Nomthandazo	Eskom Representative	Eskom Representative	Present
Kerspuy, Mel	Gauteng Chair	City of Johannesburg	Present
Laubscher, Andrew	Bushveld Branch Chair	Greater Tzaneen Municipality	Apology
Makulani, Tshilidzi	DWA Representative	DWA	Apology
Mbobo, Pam	Central Branch Chair/AMEU	Centlec	Present
Moloi, Tubatsi	SALGA Representative	SALGA	Apology
Muller, Louise	Representative	IMFO	Present
Tseka, Ben	Central Branch	Centlec	Present
Tupper, Ken	KZN Branch Chair	Abaqulusi Municipality	Present
Zwane, Njabulo	Mpumalanga Branch Chair	Mbombela Municipality	Apology
Selowa, Solly	Representative	DWA	Apology
Usurua, Theofilia	Namibia Branch Chair	City of Windhoek	Apology
Wienand, Madeleen	Affiliates National Coordinator	Affiliates	Present
Byker, Dirk	Past President	Invitation	Present
Bindeman, Rens	Technical Advisor	Revenue Investigations	Present
Venter, Jean	General Secretary	SARPA	Present

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The chairman welcomed members present and noted the above apologies.

2. READING AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting that was held on 17 March 2015.

3. OFFICE BEARERS

The general secretary advised that a call for nominations for a new president elect was circulated to members and that one nomination was received from the Free State. The committee supported tabling of the nomination at the convention on the 6th of August.

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MEMBERSHIP

The council **NOTED** year to date management financial statements tabled by the secretary.

AGREED

- a. To circulate to members a note outlining the benefits of the SARPA training programme.
- b. To remind members at every branch meeting of the need to ensure that their membership fees are paid up and for convention fees to be paid promptly.

[General Secretary & Mr Bindeman]

5. EXECUTIVE WORKSHOP ON TENDER SPECIFICATIONS

Members noted that three sections of the proposed tender specifications were completed dealing with infrastructure theft, data management and illegal wiring.

AGREED

- a. That Messrs Bindeman and Rhode will finalise the three tender specification sections that are ready and circulate to all members for comment by Monday next week.
- b. That Mr Bindeman draft a credit control specification by end September for circulation to members for comment. (from notes forwarded by Mr Kerspuy)

[Messrs Bindeman and Rhode]

6. NATIONAL REVENUE PROTECTION PROGRAMME

The committee considered the funding of the revenue protection programme for members. Members seem to have issues around affording the S&T charge for the trainer.

AGREED

- a. To charge affiliate members R800 per person attending.
- b. To offer a few central events around the country per year at no charge to utility members and the venue costs and trainer costs are funded from central budget, affiliate charges and or from a host city that sponsors the event.
- c. To compute a flat S&T charge for the trainer for when a municipality wants training at their municipality and they provide a venue and catering. The fee to be the same regardless of where the event is held in South Africa.
- d. To do a new round of publicity for the programme clearly showing the R800 charge per affiliate member employee, the flat S&T rate applicable to in situ training and open invitation for metros to host a regional training course.

[Rens Bindeman, General Secretary]

7. INFRASTRUCTURE CRIME CONVENTION

Members noted that the planned infrastructure crime convention was cancelled at a late stage due to insufficient sponsorships from key parties and limited delegate interest. Members suggested that the

conference was all about reducing the cost of learning for utilities on this key subject and that it was in the interest of the industry to have such a convention at low or zero cost per person.

AGREED

- a. That the president attend the NFMTCCC meeting on 26 August to suggest that an infrastructure crime convention was a good industry priority and to encourage stakeholders to pull together to host such an event in the near future, or that a letter be drafted in the name of the president to communicate likewise.
- b. That SARPA should support an infrastructure crime convention, but not as the anchor organising party.

[President & Mr Bindeman]

8. SALGA

Members noted that SALGA had enquired about loss statistics but members suggested that SALGA was in a better position than SARPA to directly collect such statistics from municipalities. Members suggested having a statistics form on the internet and the secretariat advised that this was possible at short notice using the existing forms infrastructure of the secretariat.

9. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Mr Bindeman presented his report, which was also circulated to members. He requested members to assist with getting member participation in branch events.

10. IURPA

Mr Rhode reported on attending the most recent conference of IURPA and agreed to circulate a short report on the event to the committee.

11. BRANCH REPORTS

Branch representatives reported on activities in their regions. The central branch did meet in the Sol Plaatjies district and the event was well attended. Content was good and representatives from Lesotho also attended. Their next meeting will be in Welkom. KwaZulu Natal is meeting and the wife of Mr Tupper is acting as secretary of the branch. It appears that eThekweni Electricity is not supporting the branch at this point in time. The Bushveld area are doing well despite the small number of municipalities in the area. Arrangements rotate between the AMEU and SARPA. The Western Cape meeting was not well attended due to a key date clash. Mr Ballantyne is doing pristine work to help branch arrangements. Mpumalanga appears to be dormant.

AGREED that the president and president elect meet with Ethekwini and with the president of the AMEU to address the grievances of Ethekwini.

[President and President Elect]

12. IMFO

SARPA and IMFO is cooperating in KZN and in the W Cape.

Ms Muller **AGREED** to forward a list of key branch contacts to Mr Bindeman to assist in further cooperation planning.

[Ms Muller]

13. AMEU

The AMEU convention will be held in Sandton in the first week of October 2015. It will be their centenary convention. A new AMEU initiative to promote the role of women in the electricity industry was mentioned. The initiative is known as Women in Electricity and a well attended launch meeting was held earlier in August in Durban.

14. ESKOM

Eskom reported reductions in infrastructure losses in recent months. Load shedding remains a major issue, as is ghost vending. The organisation is piloting the rollout of smart prepayment meters.

15. PIESA

The secretary advised that the PIESA conference will be at Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, this year.

AGREED to fund travel for Mr Bindeman to the PIESA conference to allow him to participate in the subcommittee workshops and also to deliver a paper at the main conference.

[Rens Bindeman]

16. CONDUCTOR MARKING

Members heard that the subcommittee working on cable markings to combat cable theft is still ongoing and that it is currently driven by technical experts close to the selected marking technologies. SARPA is not able to contribute on that level at this age of the project.

AGREED to circulate the draft technical specification for cable markings to members of SARPA for comment.

[Rens Bindeman]

17. CONVENTION 2015/2016

Members debated its strategy for the 2016 convention.

AGREED

- a. That the president approach eThekweni to host the 2016 convention.
- b. That the secretary circulate a general call for proposals for hosting the 2016 convention to members.
- c. To convene a special meeting on the content of the convention in November 2015, adjacent to the last executive committee meeting for the year.

[President, General Secretary, Cindy Maree]

18. AFRICA EXPANSION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Members noted increasing activities of SARPA in other parts of Africa and it was suggested that a name change to ARPA be considered.

AGREED to raise the name change matter with members at the convention but to also suggest that a small team meet to consider the implications on the format, constitution and value proposition of a geographical scope beyond South or Southern Africa.

[General Secretary, Cindy Maree]

19. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

17 November 2015

20. CLOSURE

The chairman thanked members and closed the meeting.

Thus read and confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON

DATE