

---

## SOUTHERN AFRICA REVENUE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION



### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

#### MINUTES

**DATE:** 11 March 2014

**TIME:** 10h00-15h00

**VENUE:** City Lodge, OR Tambo

#### MEMBERS:

Rhode, Michael	President	Knysna/AMEU	Present
Maphaka, Maboe	President Elect/Gauteng Chair	Eskom	Present
Olivier, William	Imm Past President	Mossel Bay Municipality	Apology
Lelaka, Malesela	Past President	Eskom	Apology
Louw, Deon	Past President	Drakenstein Municipality	Apology
Gower, Chris	Past President/Eastern Cape	Buffalo City Municipality	Present
Bindeman, Rens	Technical Advisor	Revenue Investigations	Present
De Vries, Paul	W Cape Branch Chair	Drakenstein	Present
Jam Jam, Kgomotso	Eskom	Eskom Representative	Present
Laubscher, Andrew	Bushveld Branch Chair	Greater Tzaneen Municipality	Present
Makulani, Tshilidzi	DWA Representative	DWA	Apology
Mbobob, Pam	Central Branch Chair	Centlec	Apology
Nkwanyana, Nathi	KZN Branch Representative	eThekwini	Unconfirmed
Selowa, Solly	Representative	DWA	Apology
Usurua, Theofilia	Namibia Branch Chair	City of Windhoek	Apology
Zwane, Njabulo	Mpumalanga Branch Chair	Mbombela Municipality	Apology
Venter, Jean	General Secretary	SARPA	Present

#### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The president welcomed members present and noted the above apologies.

The president advised that the president of IMFO, Ms Louise Muller, has agreed in principle to serve on the SARPA executive council. Members suggested pursuing co-locating some of the SARPA branch meetings with that of IMFO. Members noted that since Mr Rhode is now the elected president of SARPA that the AMEU is entitled to nominate another representative to the SARPA executive council.

#### AGREED

- To remind the Kwa Zulu Natal branch of their obligation to attend executive council meetings.
- To advise the AMEU to elect a new representative to the Council.
- To add Ms Muller of IMFO to the executive council.

[General Secretary, Kelly Hirsch, Cindy Maree]

---

## 2. READING AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The council confirmed the minutes of the meetings that were held on 10 July 2013 and 29 November 2013.

## 3. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The council **NOTED** unaudited financial statements for the year ended December 2013. Members debated the new value proposition of the association and implementation of new membership fees. Mr Bindeman advised that he has raised the new fee structure at the Good Hope branch and that the structure and new value proposition was apparently well received.

**AGREED** to implement a fee structure based on member classifications similar to that of the AMEU with levels: Metro – R22950, 500+ GWH – R 10000, 250+ GWH R6350, 50+ GWH R5100 Up to 50 GWH R4700. Fees for affiliate members to be R4700 per annum. The implementation strategy includes a short marketing campaign using a value proposition document, SMS and mailshot. Buffalo City and Eskom to be included into the Metro section. The new structure to be explained at branch meetings, also in the newsletter, and on the website. The secretary is mandated to negotiate discounted fees with members who have budgetary constraints in the current year preventing payment of the new fee. A lower rate can be offered later in the year to members who are constrained.

[General Secretary]

Members debated the scope of the association and **AGREED** that each branch should appoint a vice chair to specifically look after water and treasury content and membership engagement.

[Branch Representatives]

### **AGREED**

- a. That the president obtain a new GWH by municipality list from NERSA to aid in updating the membership classifications.
- b. Mr Bindeman to obtain reference letters from SAPS for work done by SARPA that can be used in fundraising work.
- c. Mr Bindeman to hand copies of past unpaid invoices to members attending branch meetings for the 2013 year.

[President, Rens Bindeman, Andrew Nkosi]

## 4. CONSTITUTION

The council reviewed the constitution of the association. Members noted that the mandate of SARPA covers areas in utilities that are broader than what the current focus is of the organisation.

### **AGREED**

- a. To include reference to section 30b of the income tax act into the constitution.

- 
- b. To update the constitutional section referring to the branch representative on the council to state “preferably the chairman of the branch”.
  - c. Update the name of the AMEU in the constitution to refer to “utilities”

[Kelly Hirsch]

## 5. CONVENTION 2014

The president advised that the IMFO president, Ms Louse Muller, has agreed to do the keynote address at the 2014 SARPA convention. SARPA will also have a slot at the IMFO convention for a paper. Knysna municipality will sponsor the venue for the convention as well as the dinner. Members suggested that some of the most valuable papers at branch level lately had been peer papers on tasks and work that is common to the audience.

### AGREED

- a. To nominate Mr Bindeman for honorary membership of the association at the next convention.
- b. That Mr Maphaka will do a paper on ghost vending and other updates from Eskom at the convention.
- c. To send VIP invites to the presidents of AMEU and IMFO and to the chairman of ESKOM. Each to be invited to do a presentation.

[Melindi Snyman, President Elect]

## 6. IURPA

The president advised that he has been approached by IURPA to do a paper at their conference. Members noted that the previous Africa representative may have had his travel costs paid for by IURPA.

**AGREED** that the president will enquire with IURPA on their travel funding policy for regional representatives on their board.

[President]

## 7. BRANCH REPORTS

**Good Hope Branch:** Mr de Vries advised that the previous meeting of the branch was held on 20 February and was attended by some ninety delegates. Members seemed to be reluctant to travel to smaller towns in their region.

**Eastern Cape:** Mr Gower reported that the next meeting is scheduled for 10 April but that he had difficulty contacting the AMEU branch chair to co-locate the event with AMEU. It appears that the AMEU is organisationally in decline in the Eastern Cape.

**Gauteng:** Mr Maphaka advised that he is arranging a workshop in the province together with City Power.

**Mpumalanga:** There has not been a meeting for some time and organisational support seems to be lacking for the branch.

---

## **AGREED**

- a. To ask the SARPA affiliate companies to invite municipal staff to the SARPA branch meetings.
- b. To consider arranging combined meetings involving more than one branch.
- c. To make use of Ms Wilken of the secretariat in cases where lack of organisational resources are preventing a branch from meeting.
- d. To ensure that all branch meetings cover also water and treasury content.

**[Branch Representatives, Rens Bindeman]**

**Free State:** Mr Bindeman advised that the most recent meeting was very successful due to a workshop style agenda. The meeting was held on a Saturday.

**Kwa Zulu Natal:** Meetings in this province are well attended and the next meeting will be in Newcastle later in March.

## **8. STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS**

**IMFO:** The president met with the president of IMFO, Ms Louse Muller, and matters of representation of IMFO on the SARPA committee as well as convention arrangements were discussed and recorded elsewhere in this minute.

**AMEU:** The president advised that the AMEU executive council has again suggested a merger between SARPA and the AMEU. Members debated the matter but no clear advantage to such a merger could be identified. Members noted that the need for SARPA was now greater than when it was originally founded by ESKOM, IMFO and AMEU and that its footprint has expanded well beyond electricity.

**AGREED** that Messrs Rhode, Maphaka and Gower meet with the AMEU to explore the merger of the two organisations and what benefits AMEU see to such a merger.

**[Messrs Rhode, Maphaka and Gower]**

**ESKOM:** Mr Maphaka then introduced the new representative of Eskom, Mr Kgomotso Jam Jam. He mentioned that the electricity supply situation remained extremely tight at this time. He also advised of a company which has been fined R60 000 for tampering and of the recovery of a ghost vending station. In some areas new supply group codes were being implemented but at a high cost.

**PIESA:** The secretary advised of a restructuring of PIESA activities that is in progress.

## **9. REPORT BY THE TECHNICAL ADVISER**

Mr Bindeman then did a slide presentation on training and branch activities around the country. The revenue protection training course that was previously held in Zambia will next be held in Ghana.

---

**AGREED**

- a. To call a meeting of affiliate members to assist them to structure internally. **RB**
- b. To include the new value proposition into the members handbook and to also create a brochure form of the document. **AN**
- c. To follow up why the Kafue Gorge center in Zambia has not yet paid their training capitation fee to SARPA for 2013. **AdS**
- d. To mandate Messrs Bindeman and Gower to complete the application with the Lotto for funding for SARPA for an amount of R1m for a two year period.

**[Messrs Bindeman, Gower and Andrew Nkosi, Adrie da Silva]**

**AGREED** to remove the revenue recovery toolkit from the agenda.

**[Cindy Maree]**

**10. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

9 July 2014 in Knysna

**11. CLOSURE**

The president thanked members and closed the meeting.

**THUS READ AND CONFIRMED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PRESIDENT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**