

**POLLUTION IN CRADOCK AFFECTING THE GREAT FISH RIVER**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY OFFICES**

**DATE** : 10 February 2015

**TIME** : 09:00 am

**VENUE** : IYTLM Technical Services Boardroom (Cradock)

**CHAIRPERSON** : Mr. P. De Wet

| **ITEM** | **DETAILS** | **ACTION** |
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|  | **Welcome** |  |
|  | Mr P. De Wet welcomed all those in attendance in his capacity as a Chairperson and presented the Agenda of the meeting. |  |
|  | **Introduction**  Those in attendance were requested to introduce themselves. | *All* |
|  | **Attendance and Apologies**  **Attendance**  Attendance register is attached. |  |
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|  | **Adoption of the Agenda**  The Agenda was amended to remove the presentations from the Great Fish Water User Association and Chris Hani District Municipality (CHDM). Discussion and Way Forward was made one item. (see amended agenda attached) |  |
| **5.** | **Comment By Cllr R.H. Schulze**  Late arrival by CHDM officials was not acceptable as all parties were suppose to meet at 09:00am not 11:00am as the officials from CHDM did. | *Cllr R.H. Schulze* |
| **6.** | **Outlining the purpose of the meeting by Mr. P. De Wet**  The purpose of the meeting is to resolve the on ongoing sewage pollution that is affecting the Great Fish River. The condition of the infrastructure, and setting clear time frames to resolve the outstanding issues to be dealt with. | *Mr P. De Wet* |
| **7.** | **Presentation: Dept. of Water and Sanitation(DWS) (**see attachment**)**  DWS to compile a summary of monitoring points and forward them to CHDM Water Quality Section.  Proposal to have a combined monitoring of site by both DWS & CHDM.  Bulk Water Schemes downstream are also being polluted affecting water resources in areas as far down as Cookhouse, Somerset East and Grahamstown.    **DISCUSSION:** | *Miss N. Mnotoza*  *Miss N. Mnotoza*  *Mr C. Ferreira* |
| **8.** | **Response by CHDM**  CHDM has noted the manhole spillage into the Great Fish River and the blockage that is due to the misuse of the water borne sewer system e.g. foreign objects inserted into the sewer receiver causing blockages at the pump stations.  CHDM acknowledged the dire state of the infrastructure at the Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW), pump stations and general sewage reticulation.  Electric panels that were a safety hazards with hanging live wires will all be replaced with all the safety features included. Standby generator have been purchased but not yet installed. All pumps stand by pumps, generators and manhole lids will be attended to and will either be refurbished or replaced. These items have all been ordered.  There is still a challenge with generation of invoices and Service Provider payment delays, meeting with the supply chain unit was convened yesterday (09 Feb 2015), and promises were made to fast track the processes going forward.  A spreadsheet has been compiled with all the outstanding invoices that need to be paid my CHDM. Responsive approach is being initiated by the municipality to deal the future problems. Program will be acquired from the service provider which will indicate the logics around the servicing on pumps.  There is still lack in human capacity from municipality side due to the shift in water services department.  Vandalism is still a challenge, security measures have been drafted and implementation measures are underway.  CHDM will embark on a site visit to the Western Cape to view technology used at a municipality there instead of the ‘problematic’ horizontal aerators used at the Cradock WWTW. As they require straight alignment and other complications.  DWS also advised the municipality to consult with Blue Crane Municipality on how they have dealt with their obstacle, in relation to waste water drainage system. Where a sieve was inserted at the inlet point of the sewage pump station  CHDM is also planning to introduce the Vortex pumps; it will assist in countering the abattoir waste problem at the Cradock WWTW. | *Mr. M. Shasha (CHDM)*  *&*  *Mr L. Mashiya (IYTLM)* |
| **8.1** | CHDM is drafting an operation and maintenance schedule for all the pumps for the maintenance teams to work according to.  **Accelerated Community Infrastructure Program (ACIP) application**  Submission dates not adhered to apply for funding showing disinterest and no sense of urgency or prioritisation of this application as if receiving ACIP funding is not a need from the Municipality. Even the currently supplied document at the meeting needs to be worked on, as the Departmental logo contained in the title page is the old Department of Water Affairs and not Department of Water and Sanitation as it is currently called.  Late submission was due to a delay with the final touches as getting all, authorising signature was a challenge.  **Actions:** | Mr C. Ferreira (DWS)  Mr L. Mashiya (IYTLM) |
|  | * Non compliance letter from DWS to CHDM regarding sewerage spillage 14 days has expired and the has not been any response from the municipality: (see attachment). Responsible personnel to provide an action plan in response to the non compliance letter. Mr Mashiya indicated that most of the issues raised in the letter have been dealt with. A report in his possession with picture of before and after, as confirmation. The report will be forwarded to Cllr R.H. Schulze on the 11/02/2015. * Mr Mashiya is to compile a detailed remedial action plan with and submit it to the DWS before the 16/02/2015, 12:00pm. * Mr L.D.Mashiya to attain a summary of outstanding invoice from RJN Projects and forward them to Mr Shasha for payment. * Maluti Consultants is busy verifying all the work that was done and invoiced by Hlumisa Consultants. * An environmental Report dating back 6 months must be submitted to DWS by the 13/02/2015, 12:00pm. * DWS to check both Green and Blue Drop status of the affected region and report on the compliance. * Cradock WWTW permit forwarded to IYTLM officials. | *Mr L. Mashiya to submit by 11/02/2015*  *Mr L. Mashiya to submit 16/02/2015*  *Mr L. Mashiya 11/02/2015*  *CHDM 20/02/2015*  *Mr Ramulifho*  *Mr. X.Mzamo & Miss N.Mnotoza*  *Miss N. Mnotoza* |
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