



TSHIPING WATER USER ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Annual General Meeting at Dutch Reformed Church Hall on 16 October 2023 at 10:00 am

SMM.	DESCRIPTION	RESOLUTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON / S
1.	OPENING		
	The Chairperson, Mr. J Bredenkamp, welcomes the attendees and Mr. Johan Lambrechts opens with a prayer.	Cognisance	Mr J Bredenkamp
2.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES		
2.1	<p>Present: Ms Anna Williamson (Domestic Workers) Mr A Viljoen (CEO) Ms E Nel (PA) Ms M du Plooy (Field Technician) Mr J Lambrechts (Farming) Mr C Viljoen (General Farming) Mr W Nengwenani (DWS) - Teams Mr I Gous (Mining – Kolomela) Mr F Goussard (Mining – Sishen) Mr J Bredenkamp (General Farming) Mr M Koorzen (Farmer Fouross) Mr J Koorzen (Farmer Fouross) Dr K Vivier (Artesium Consulting) Mr C Ludike (Farmer Madebane) Mr J Kotze (Farmer Floradale) Mr P Ludike (Farmer Goodhope) Mr B Bredenkamp (Farmer Broomlands)</p>	Cognisance	PA

2.2	<p>Apologies: Ms Rose-Marie Damoense (Emerging Farmers) Mr H van Rensburg (Mining – Lidino/Lomoteng) Mr Danie Koorzen (Farmer) Mr Willie Uys (Farmer) Mr Eksteen Kotze (Farmer Stillerus) Mr Conrad Kotze (Farmer Floradale)</p>	Cognisance	PA
2.3	<p>Absent: Me C Mathebula (Local Authorities – Tsantsabane Municipality) Me Guguletha Yamba (Mining – Beeshoek) Mr J v/d Merwe (Irrigation) Me C v/d Merwe (Industries)</p>	Cognisance	PA
3	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 24 August 2022		
	The Minutes are approved by Mr Charl Viljoen and Seconded by Mr Ferdi Goussard.	Cognisance	Manco
4	WATER RESOURCE PROJECT FEEDBACK PHASE B2D		
	<p>Dr Koos Viviers summarizes the groundwater studies he has carried out on behalf of Tshiping Water Users over the past 10 years.</p> <p>The results of the studies show that the withdrawal is more than the recharge and we as groundwater users will now have to manage our water resources for sustainability. Forest encroachment, population growth, irrigation, mining, and waste are important factors.</p> <p><u>Dr Koos Vivier also suggests the following:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A logger must be installed at Kuruman Oog, 2. Tshiping WUA must create a link to NASA, 3. More intensive monitoring of the Soutloop, and 	Cognisance	CEO

	<p>4. All fountains must be measured.</p> <p><u>Questions & Answers:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Maarten Koorzen - Doesn't the population explosion also have a negative impact on the groundwater resources? <i>It certainly has an influence.</i> 2. Mr Jim Bredenkamp - The percentage of forest encroachment varies from region to region throughout the catchment area of TWUA. Can the losses be measured and attributed in each GMU? <i>The proposal for the next project is the Geo-Farmer where an area of 25mx25m is analysed daily: evapotranspiration, soil moisture, humidity, leaf index, etc. The previous studies determined where the problem lies, but now TWUA needs to find 5 to 10 control areas for analysis.</i> 3. Mr Charl Viljoen - Do the moon and atmospheric pressure affect groundwater resources? <i>Yes, it does.</i> The underground water veins/dykes are not properly considered, and he feels that the mining structures disturb those water veins. After all, the water veins also feed the aquifers. <i>The dykes are considered.</i> 4. Mr. Johan Kotze - Surely groundwater recharge must reach the lavas if they are not disturbed by mining activities, or hasn't the mine already formed a low-pressure system and there are only pools of water left? <i>If the mines had an effect, there would be no water levels after 40 years. Water levels are currently measured at 5m. There is no hydraulic connection.</i> <p>The summarized presentation of Dr Koos Vivier will be available on Tshiping WUA's website after the meeting.</p>		
5	ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
	The fully audited Financial Statements for 2023 of TWUA are available on the website. The summary of the auditors is as follows:		All Members

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A decrease of 13.55% in the collection of administration tariffs, mainly due to the loss of Sedibeng who transferred to Vaal Central Water Board (Bloem Water). • Depreciation is in line with 2022. • The material increase in consulting and professional fees is due to the increase in water monitoring loggers and project expenses paid to Artesium Consulting. • All other operating expenses are in conformity with those of 2022, with no other exceptions. • No material losses were experienced through criminal conduct. • No irregular expenditures were recorded outside the budget of TWUA. • No steps were required to manage losses or irregular expenditures. • Bad debt provision in 2023 was provided for R 294,982 (2022: R139,793) consisting of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quick Leap Investment 121 Pty Ltd R 11,482.60 - REX Exploration Pty Ltd R 3,913.68 - Sedibeng Water R 279,585.22 • Debtors outstanding at year-end amounted to R323,623 (2022: R581,523) • Operating ratio is 1.3. • Solvency ratio is significantly higher than the norm of 1 – assets exceed the liabilities with ease. • Debtor collections seem to comply with the required policy. <p>Mr. Walter Nengwenani says that he will try to escalate the collection of Sedibeng Water's fees from DWS's side.</p>	Cognisance	
6	APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS		

	<p>The current auditors are Nel & Vennote from Upington.</p> <p>New auditors must be chosen and Mr Izak Gous suggests that TWUA should again use Nel & Vennote and Mr. Ferdi Goussard seconded.</p>	Cognisance	All Members
7	ANNUAL REPORT		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Annual Report is available for download from the Tshiping WUA website – www.tshiping.co.za <p><u>Overview of the WUA's activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tshiping Water User Association (TWUA) is actively involved in the process of monitoring groundwater usage by water users in the operational area and keeping a record of all available water monitoring data on the official Tshiping WUA database. This water information management system (WIMS) database is accessible through the Tshiping website. Furthermore, extensive work was done on the development of A web-based groundwater monitoring database for monitoring the resource, determining the reserve, interpreting water levels & rainfall, and developing A groundwater resource management program that can also relate to drought conditions. The WUA uses Manco meetings, public meetings, A website, newsletters, and various communications tools to interact with water users and members. By accessing the Tshiping website at the web address www.tshiping.co.za, you will have access to all relevant documents and the database for the operation of the organization. Anyone may use this platform to engage with the WUA. Through the website, it is possible to request access to the database, named the Water Information Management System (WIMS). This is A complete analytical system used to capture and interpret all groundwater-related monitoring data in the area of operation. Continuous development and work are being done to improve the data verification and effectiveness of all data in WIMS to ensure effective management and decision-making. The latest hydrogeological assessment report released by TWUA includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nineteen GMUs presented in this report, which fall under the Tshiping WUA management area, are located within the arid Northern Cape province of South Africa. The main towns within the study area include Olifantshoek, Kathu, Postmasburg, and Lime Acres. Groundwater is the sole source of water for many farmers, miners, and communities that occur in this area. Intensive iron ore mining occurs within the central portion of the study area. The largest mining operations include the Sishen Mine, Khumani Mine, Beeshoek 	Cognisance	All Members

	<p>Mine, and Kolomela Mine. Over 30 mines are included in the WUL database. Finsch diamond mine is located on the eastern extent of the study area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large-scale dewatering has been required to mine these resources. The perceived impacts of the dewatering activities and the reliance on groundwater from farmers and communities have resulted in significant interest in the water level trends within the groundwater management units within the study area. • Significant abstraction for water supply to the towns of Kathu and Postmasburg also takes place in the Tshiping WUA area. • The GMUs encompass a total area of 8736 Km2. and include the quaternary catchments D41J and D73A. The northern catchments are drained by the Gamagara River which ultimately flows northerly from the study area. The southern catchments are drained by the Soutloop and its tributaries (Skeifontein Spruit and the Groen water Spruit. The Soutloop flows southerly out of the study area. • The WUA was involved in the following administration functions, meetings, and stakeholder engagements and projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Water & Sanitation • Kolomela Mine Environmental Forum • Sishen Mine Farmers Environmental Forum • Khumani Mine Environmental Forum • Beeshoek Mine Environmental Forum • Tshiping WIMS Data Management & Development • Agri NC Water Committee • South African Association for Water User Associations • Public consultation processes and EIA's • Water Use License Application reviews and comments • Central Vaal Water Board • Concerned Members & Complaints 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debtor (Water Users) administration accounts • Compliance & Monitoring • TWUA continues to stay actively involved in all water-related projects in the operational area. These will include the reviewing of EIAs, participating in public processes like the upgrade and repairs of the Vaal Gamagara Pipeline, providing input to WULAs, investigating non-compliance, working with the agricultural sector to comply with regulations, commenting on draft water use licenses, attending environmental related forum meetings and assisting members on water use compliance and other related functions. • TWUA continues to monitor water quality due to spillages and this is the result of monitoring on the Tsantsabane Local Municipality. It is evident that the impact on groundwater quality is due to uncontrolled spillages from sewerage works. • Inspection and water quality reports are available on request. <p><u>Groundwater Level Monitoring</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWUA is currently managing the data collection of loggers in the operational area and is annually in the process of facilitating the installation of additional loggers. • The current logger situation is as follows: • Total Loggers in the operational are – 134. • Active Loggers – 99 • Out of Order Loggers – 35 • The Manco is making financial provisions for assisting and supporting HDI communities in identified projects. • Olifantshoek Emerging Farmers has requested to be assisted with another Solar Pump Installation and this will be completed during the 2024 financial year. <p><u>Changes in Business Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWUA has completed the follow-up study of the B2B report and the B2D report is available on the Tshiping website. https://www.tshiping.co.za/documents/ 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the low rainfall in the area agriculture activities are predominantly focused on livestock. Some irrigation occurs (1.37 km² or 137 ha) of landcover is under commercial pivot irrigation. Approximately 90% of pivot irrigated commercial land occurs in three of the 19 GMUs studied. • Groundwater abstraction within the study area has developed since the 1950s. Initially, shallow boreholes were drilled to depths of around 15 - 30m. Following high rainfall from 1973 to 1976, deeper and consequently higher-yielding boreholes were drilled. The change in drilling method from the cable tool drill to percussion drilling has allowed access to deeper aquifers and increased the groundwater abstraction rates significantly in the 1970s compared with the 1950s. The socio-economic advantages of water and the advent of electricity supply in the 1970s enabled motorized pumps to abstract higher volumes of water. In addition, population growth and increased mining activities are expected to have resulted in higher abstraction from the aquifers in the study area. <p><u>Registered users</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation – 28 • Mining – 20 • Local Authorities – 1 • Bulk Services – 2 • Renewal Energy – 5 • Industries – 1 <p><u>Progress on the Transformation Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation in Management Committee • Currently 9 positions from the 14 available seats on the Manco, are allocated to transformation. • 1 x Representative for Emerging farmers and • 1 x Representative for Domestic users. • 3 x Representative for Mining • 3 x Representative for Local Government 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 x Representative for Bulk Services <p><u>Management Committee</u></p> <p><u>Agriculture:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Johan Lambrecht - Mr. Charl Viljoen - Mr. Jim Bredenkamp (Chairperson) <p><u>Mining:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assmang Iron Ore – Mr. Guguletha Yamba - Lomoteng Mine – Herbert Van Rensburg <p><u>Industries:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Me Christa van der Merwe <p><u>Irrigation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Johan van der Merwe <p><u>Emerging Farmers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Me Rose-Marie Damoense <p><u>Domestic Users:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Me Anna Williamson <p><u>Local Government:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tsantsabane LM – Me. Cindy Mathebula - Vacant - Gamagara LM - Vacant - Siyanda DM <p><u>Bulk Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vacant - Vaal Central Water Board <p><u>Ownership Promotion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not possible to assist HDI's with ownership promotion, for the Association is not selling or distributing water. Ownership at this time is being concentrated on communal ground and possible existing land claims, which make it essentially an issue of the Department of Agriculture and Land Reform. Furthermore, communal grounds are governed by Local Municipalities. <p><u>Skills Development</u></p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house training takes place when required to perform functions by the personnel of the association. The Association is not required to register for skills development levies currently. <p><u>Employment Equity and Labour Conditions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment equity will be addressed with the employment of new employees and the TWUA is adhering to the Basic Conditions of Employment Act. <p><u>Preferential Procurement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With regard to the Act for Procurement: - Act no 5 of 2000 and regulation 3(4), 4(4), 5(4), 6(4), 8(8), 17 & sub-regulation 2 All purchases of Tshiping WUA are approved according to the Procurement Policy. <p><u>Socio-economic development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DWS is responsible for water resource development and management in terms of the NWA, and within the broader framework of other environmental legislation. DWS also strongly reflects the will to make sound decisions that ensure the development of society and the economy whilst maintaining, and where possible enhancing ecological integrity. The concept of management of the environment has evolved from the exclusivity of protection of plants and animals to balancing the complex interaction of society, the economy, and ecology. TWUA are aware of social linkages such as dependency and interaction; and engage in collective learning and negotiated decision processes. Thus, the participation of local stakeholders is vital in ensuring contextual understanding of a complex system. Local stakeholder at times might not be aware of complexities in their catchments and it becomes very crucial to assess this awareness. Therefore, processes need to be evaluated in terms of knowledge and awareness generation among local stakeholders about the complexity of human/natural resources relations. Complexity is also experienced within the biophysical environment and the way it is used/managed by people. The Association contributes to Socio-Economic Development by doing the following: HDI Manco members are compensated for travel expenses for attending Manco meetings. Financial provision is available in the annual budget to support communities in identified water-related requirements. <p><u>Enterprise development</u></p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the characteristics of the Catchment and the fact that the Association is not selling water, the principal focus of the Association is based on Groundwater Resource Management. For this reason, some attention has been given to Enterprise Development now. Meaning the possible extension of the operational area. <p><u>Capacity building of external partners and stakeholders</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No capacity building is currently being done with external partners or stakeholders, as no need has been identified yet. • The Association understands that it needs to create awareness around the efficient use of water and has accordingly set aside an advertising, training & capacity building budget for the period of the business plan. • The Association will evaluate the need to create awareness amongst all agricultural water users to improve the on-farm water user efficiency and support initiatives by other organizations to increase water use efficiency. <p><u>Redressing Inequalities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the TWUA is not a supplier of water, it is difficult to address the inequalities amongst water users, but as a stakeholder in the area, the WUA provides input in negotiations between water users and the DWS. • The WUA is continuously engaged to help with the funding of HDI projects. • HDI communities in the area of operation are furthermore assisted by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and local Municipalities. • Assistance to municipalities will be considered when needed to assist in evaluating water requirements on the communal properties being managed by local municipalities. <p><u>Employment and labour conditions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These conditions are met in the operations of the WUA by adhering to the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, 1997. <p><u>Directives received from the Minister.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No directives were received against the Tshiping WUA <p><u>Assessment of the state of affairs of the WUA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state of affairs of the TWUA is in a good position, financially and operational. 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is time-consuming to establish and oversee water resource management, but good progress is made with the WIMS and this tool will prove to be effective. <p><u>Comments on the financial position of the WUA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The TWUA is in a good financial state without any losses or debt and is able to finance all the necessary functions according to a Manco-approved budget. <p><u>KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functional Performance <p><u>Water Quality</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WUA collects water quality results from various water users and the data is captured and stored in the web-based database called the Water Information Management System (WIMS). <p><u>Water Quantity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WUA keeps a record of the total allocation and water balances of water uses according to the WARMS data received from the DWS. <p><u>Resource Protection</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area of operation is primarily focused on water uses by the Mining sector, Agricultural registrations, and Schedule 1 (Domestic) users. The area is not primarily an irrigation region and water allocation to irrigation is limited. There is however great concern over the illegal use of water in irrigation and will this issue mainly be addressed during the Validation and Verification process by the DWS to be completed by the Department in due course. As DWS is the custodian of the groundwater resources and the regional legislative department on the allocation of licenses, all surplus water currently being abstracted under Section 21J of the Water Act, is being exported to the Vaal Gamagara Pipeline. Limited conditions exist to counter the impact of dewatering on the local resources. Resource protection is largely prioritized between existing unlawful water users, unregulated water uses, and the WUL conditions as promulgated by the DWS in Water Use Licenses. There is still room for improvement in the involvement of TWUA in local communities and municipalities to raise awareness to the public on resource protection and sensitivity towards effective water use. 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWUA is currently in the process of a Resource Water Project to determine the water balance available in the resource. This will assist in guiding decisions relating to WCDM. <p><u>Institutional performance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of complaints per year regarding the functions undertaken by the WUA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4 Complaints were received regarding sewerage spills and investigations were done in Postmasburg, Danielskuil, and Olifantshoek. ➤ 6 Town visits were conducted to assess the status of sewerage and water infrastructure. Investigations were done in Postmasburg, Olifantshoek, and Danielskuil. ➤ 21 Water User Investigations were done together with DWS in terms of compliance. 1 in the industry sector, 8 in the Mining sector, and 12 in the Irrigation sector. ➤ 6 Notice of Intentions was issued to non-compliant water users in the Tshiping WUA area of operation. ➤ 1 Directive was issued to Tsantsabane Local Municipality for continued sewage spillages into the Groenwaterspruit. ➤ 2 Visits to Tsantsabane LM boreholes and Gamagara LM (Kathu, Olifantshoek and Deben) were done. ➤ Most of the complaints and inputs were related to water users within the WUA which may have negative impacts on the area of operation. <p>Tshiping WUA, continuously provides input and facilitation on various platforms to assist IAPs with issues on impacts.</p>		
8	MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS		
		Cognisance	All Members
9	REGISTRATION FOR DWS INVOICES		
	Many complaints have been received from Water Users that they are no longer receiving statements from DWS and now they are getting summonses for outstanding fees.	Cognisance	All Members

	<p>The CEO explains that DWS no longer issues statements, and that the Water Users themselves must download the statements on DWS's website.</p> <p>It is very easy and simple and for a step-by-step explanation, the User Manual can be downloaded.</p> <p>The link to the website: https://statements.dws.gov.za</p>		
10	NEW MATTERS		
	<p>Mr Calvyn Ludike wants to know what the possibility is that Tshiping WUA together with the Danielskuil-Lime Acres Fire Association can launch a project against forest encroachment.</p> <p>The chairman asks that it be put in writing with exactly what is expected and what type of woods are being talked about.</p>	Cognisance	Mr C Ludike
11	CLOSING		
	<p>The Chairperson, Mr J Bredenkamp, thanks everyone present and declares the meeting closed.</p>	Cognisance	All Members
12	MEETING ADJOURNS		Noted

 MR AJ VILJOEN
 CEO

 DATE

 Mr J Bredenkamp (Chairperson)

 DATE