



MINUTES OF THE WEST COAST DISTRICT MUNICIPAL COASTAL COMMITTEE
22 February 2023
(Virtual MS TEAMS Meeting)

Item		Person
1. Welcome & Introduction to MCC	<p>The Chairperson, Deputy Mayor, and Councillor Sandra Crafford welcomed all present at the MCC Meeting.</p> <p><u>Welcome and round of introduction:</u></p> <p>A.Warnick (AW) - Swartland Municipality André Kruger (AK)- Saldanha Bay WQT Audrey Pedro (AP) - West Coast District Municipality Basson Geldenhuys (BG)- National DPW Charles Malherbe (CM) - West Coast District Municipality Donnie Malherbe - CapeNature Gerhard Cilliers (GC)- DFFE Jan Marx- St Helena Bay WQT Lutendo Musetsho (LM) – DFFE LGS Mazwi Mthethwa - SANParks Mellisa Naiker (MN) - DEA&DP: Coastal Management Neale Africa (NA)- Swartland Municipality PC Blom - SAMSA Sandra Crafford (SC)-West Coast District Municipality-MCC Chairperson / WCDM Deputy Mayor Thandeka Mbambo TM - DFFE</p>	<p>Deputy Mayor Sandra Crafford depmayor@wcdm.co.za</p>

<p>2. Apologies</p>	<p>Annique Umans; Des Paton; Wade Theron; Barbara Weston; Danne Joubert; Angila Joubert; Felicity Strange; Nazeema Duarte; Pierre Nel; William Brink; Dr Giselle Murison, Cullum Beattie, Cllr AK Warnick, Colin de Kock.</p>	<p>Deputy Mayor Sandra Crafford depmayor@wcdm.co.za</p>
<p>3. Confirmation of Agenda and Minutes of the last meeting</p>	<p>The agenda and minutes were approved by André Kruger and seconded by Mellisa Naiker as a true reflection of the previous meeting held on 09 November 2022.</p> <p><u>Corrections:</u></p> <p>AK: “Paragraph 10 concerns the Saldanha by Water Quality Trust. In the minutes it says from professor Jacques Bezuidenhout resigned from the Military Academy. That's not true. He resides at the Military Academy and he is a professor at the Military Academy, so he hasn't resigned and in my feedback I will say a bit more about Professor Bezuidenhout.”</p> <p>SC: “Under the questions under 10.1. The second last sentence, it says we had our strategic session two weeks ago and we also added two hours to our objectives. It was only we add it to our objectives. Saldanha Bay Municipality - I didn't mark it properly, but there was somebody that was noted twice.”</p>	<p>Deputy Mayor Sandra Crafford depmayor@wcdm.co.za</p>
<p>4. Matters Arising</p>	<p><u>4. Matters Arising from previous minutes</u></p> <p>SC: “On Page 17 of the Minutes, the discussion about the Rock Lobster Contingency Plan. That was under 11.2. The second last paragraph that says the local municipalities are all to draft and compile their own internal Red Tide or Rock Lobster Contingency Plans. With the red tide that we had just last week or the week before. I'm just wanting to inquire whether we had any movement on the municipalities compiling their own rock lobster contingency plans in terms of the recent red tide incident at Eland Bay. Anybody have any information on that Charles?”</p> <p>CM: “Yes, Chair we actually had a Red Tide Incident within Cederberg Local Municipality. I've got it sort of in my report, but there was quite a number of challenges because most local municipalities have not yet compiled their local internal Red Tide Contingency Plans for action and activities/people and budgets that needs to be activated when it happens within the local municipal area of jurisdiction. I only know of Saldanha Bay Municipality which drafted such a plan. Nazeema mentioned at the last meeting that it will go through for final approval at Saldanha Bay Municipality at their next Council meeting for endorsement. During the last Red Tide Incident the local municipality referred back to the old out dated District Plan and that the West Coast District Municipality will carry all the cost for the clean-up operation which is not the case. In fact there were Council resolutions taken at Bergriver Municipality as well as Cederberg Municipality, in fact identical resolutions, that the West Coast DM will carry all the cost for the cleanup operations.</p> <p>This wasn't the discussions we had at the Red Tide Contingency Working Group. At the working group, the National Department,</p>	<p>All</p>

DFFE actually presented on it requesting locals to compile their own plans within the parameters of the National Red Tide Contingency Plan. In the National Contingency Plan it clearly states that all stakeholders and supporting agents, which includes all the local municipalities, police services, the military, actually all the stakeholders that has some sort of role to play have to compile their own local and internal Contingency Plans as refred to in the National Red Tide Contingency Plan. This requirement was also discussed at the Red Tide Working Group as per the National Contingency Plan. Some of the locals went the easy route by just shifting their responsibility to the West Coast District Municipality, refering to the outdated West Coast Plan. That plan was more relevant for the days before the wall to wall Municipality concept of Minister Pierre Uys where the West Coast District Municipality or West Coast District Council in fact, and even the West Coast Regional Services Council and the days of the old Afdelingsraad where we provided all services within the rural areas and the local municipalities were only responsible for the towns or urban areas. Due to legislation changes local municipalities received these huge coastal areas/rural environments when the wall to wall municipalities came about, so they all have coastal and environmental areas within their respective municipalities which they are responsible for. Some still see the rural area being the responsibility of the district municipality, the district unfortunately don't have any rural areas anymore. Even the farms within the urban areas falls under the local municipalities, even the farm tax these days goes to the local municipality in orther for them to provide the services.

The local municipal council desicions can however not bind the West Coast DM, as these decisions were taken in the absence of the WCDM Council and because these resolutions also entails a cost on the District that was not discussed or taken up with the district before such resolutions were made. The local Municiplaities should have compiled their own internal contingency plans as per the discussions of the Workshop held at the Disaster Management Centre and should have taken their internal plans to their respective Councils for approval as agreed upon at the Red Tide Workshop. So when there is an Red Tide Incident/Walkout happening, it describe how that particular local municipality will deal with the situation at hand, who's responsible, which departments and where the funding/budget will come from internally and how they're going to clean the beach from a waste management perspective – in other words cleaning the dead lobster from the beach. And how the Technical Department's within each respective municipality will be dealing with the Waste Management function in terms of the Waste Act and municipal legislation etc. If a lot of dead animals/lobster wash up on the beach per definition, it's actually regarded as waste once they dead and decomposing. You need to clean your coastal area under jurisdiction of your local municipal area as per the demarcation board of South Africa's boundaries. In other words how local municilaities will clean their coastline from seaweed, dead animals, dogs, whales, seals, lobster, you name it. It's not a district function anymore like in the past before the wall to wall local municipal came into play and no other Dept will clean the local municipality's coastline. The district municipilaity also don't have waste removale trucks becasue waste management is a local function. We tried to assist the local municipalities, in the past via our roads division, but they work for Provincial Roads and they did not have any vehicles available that we could utilize. And if we actually utilize them their would be a cost for the local municipality for using the vehicles/operators and transporatation because the district cannot provide that services free of charge as the roads division/Provincial Roads will invoice any cost or expenditure for the account of the local municipality. Its also not a West Coast municipal responsibility or mandated function of the West Coast District Municipality anymore to clean beaches of dead animals or waste that washes up on the beach. This whole discussion was discussed at the National Working group, which highlighted that each municipality should first look internal how they going to manage and assist and how they going to support a possible Red

<p>4.1 Berg Estuary Pollution and high E.coli counts from estuarine water samples taken near the fish factory, Velddrif</p>	<p>Tide incident in terms of their Contingency Plans they had to compile and even ask their neighbouring municipality for assistance if need be. Some local municipalities immediately wrote letters from their Municipal Manager to our Municipal Manager, requesting immediate assistance without even internally going into their own resources, budgets, contingency plans, which becomes a challenge. You first need to look in house what you can do with your own funding, capacity and resources, vehicles etc. you cannot just pass the buck to someone else. We need to look at that and there will probably be a debriefing meeting called by DFFE soon after the Red Tide incident is over. We will have to take this matter up with DFFE at the debriefing meeting with the various disaster management officials, also with regarding the Council decisions and also where the local municipal contingency/internal plans are, that were discussed at the National Red Tide Working group because each local municipality should have compiled their own internal plan by now, like Saldanha Bay Municipality did.</p> <p>SC: "Ok, great Charles. That is exactly why I brought up the question. I now made a note for myself that I'm going to try and also push this through the West Coast District channels where they have meetings with the B-municipalities and to see whether we can get the buy in from from the senior administration and the political leaders to get this done. The West Coast DM will also have to review the district plan as soon as possible, but I would just like to then maybe note that we keep this on the matters arising until it is resolved."</p> <p><u>4.1 Berg Estuary Pollution and high E. coli counts from estuarine water samples taken near the fish factory, Velddrif:</u></p> <p>OK. Thank you. Then we move on to 4.1. The Berg Estuary Pollution and high E coli counts from the estuarine waters samples taken near the fish factory. I am not sure if we have anybody from DFFE or anybody else who has any feedback on this? It seems we have no feedback. We did have that point stand over from the previous meeting until the next meeting.</p> <p>CM: "Yes, Chair I will also escalate that point to the Provincial Coastal Committee meeting next month at the PCC. I will, escalate that because the previous meeting that point also stood over. But I will escalate and raise it again to the PCC in my presentation to the PCC"</p> <p>JM: "I can't actually give you feedback on the E.coli readings, but we had the St.Helena Bay Water Quality Trust meeting last Tuesday and this matter was addressed for the Berg River as well as for the whole of St.Helena Bay. And we are presently sitting with a major challenge regarding pollution. It is not only the fish processing plants, it is also because of the loadshedding that some of the sewage pumps just can't manage and sewage does end up in the water systems. Which is really unhealthy and we are presently liaising with DFFE because of the inconsistency of the Coastal Water Discharge Permits of the fish processing plants and that is basically where we are standing now. We made some sign boards and I already issued some to Admiral Island in Port Owen so that when the water is not fit for recreational use that the managers can display these sign boards. So if there's any other institutions that would like some of these St Helena Bay Water Quality Trust signboards indicating unsafe recreational areas. They can just contact me or our Chairperson Collin de Kock. He also have some of the sign boards with him. Thank you."</p>	<p>Dr Jan Marx jantmarx@gmail.com</p>
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<p>4.2 Alleged illegal structure at Small Bay (Grotto Bay) on state land</p> <p>4.3 Coastal Water Discharge Permit Review Process & Update</p>	<p>SC: “Thank you so much Jan. I wasn't sure whether you are in the meeting because I saw on the chat that you were in and out having trouble with the audio, but thank you so much for that feedback. At least there is a plan, although it's not the one that we would like to see because sewage in the water systems is a big problem. I know that they have been having trouble and have actually budgeted quite extensively to do some maintenance work, but I'm unsure whether that happened and maybe we can ask for somebody from the municipality not necessarily Angila, but maybe somebody from the Engineering Department to come and join us at our next meeting. So we can discuss this, or what can be done to help.”</p> <p>MN: “Chair perhaps Charles can forward these DFFE issues to Mr Saligh Jacobs to provide feedback at the next MCC or upcoming PCC.”</p> <p>SC: “Thank you, Melissa, for your suggestion that we send an e-mail directly to Mr. Saliegh Jacobs to ask for feedback on those points. We will do that as soon as possible. And then if he answers, we will distribute it to everyone.”</p> <p>CM: “I will also raise this at the Provincial meeting but I will also follow it up before hand with an e-mail so that Mr Jacobs can provide us feedback at the PCC, because this is today the second meeting that nobody from DFFE can provide feedback to the MCC meeting. I don't see anyone else from the DFFE except Mr. Mbambo. I think he's the only guy from DFFE in the meeting today, not sure if Ms Lutendo the local government support officer can provide clarity, but perhaps they could assist us in getting the the right people at our next meeting so that DFFE can provide feedback. But I will table it at the PCC and I'll follow it up with an e-mail before the PCC meeting. I know that Mr Basson Geldenhuys, he will be in the meeting. He's from the Department of Public Works, so they actually the the owner of the property or the land but he’s not in this meeting this morning. Hopefully they will all attend the PCC next week.”</p> <p><u>4.2 Alleged illegal structure at Small Bay (Grotto Bay) on State land:</u> Stand over to next MCC/PCC meeting.</p> <p><u>4.3 Coastal Water Discharge Permit Review Process & Update</u> Stand over to next MCC/PCC meeting.</p>	
<p>5. Presentations</p> <p>5.1 Berg River Estuary, AtoN Proof of</p>	<p><u>5.1 Berg River Estuary, AtoN Proof of Concept done by SAMSA with relevant role-players. (See presentation attached)</u></p> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <p>SC: “I know that public participation or information sessions would be key because all of the previous bouys have been vandalized because it has a negative connotation, an unnecessarily negative connotation. So I would just like to know whether you have already decided on a time frame for this public consultation because I know from the community side that, or from the people using their</p>	<p>PC Blom (SAMSA) pblom@samsa.org.za</p>

<p>Concept done by SAMSA with relevant role-players.</p> <p>6. Other Institutions/Forums/Statutory Bodies Present (General feedback)</p> <p>6.1 Birdlife SA</p>	<p>riverside it is quite necessary for some of those bouys to be in the water.”</p> <p>PB: “So I'm really waiting on Angila and Lauren from Cape Nature cause they quite involved with the Estuary Advisory Forums and they graciously offered to invite me to those forums. So obviously not being a local, you don't want to just knock on the door. I don't think the door will not be open. I'm following up with Angila and with Lauren Matthews and I'll be joining them on their awareness campaigns. Nothing has been scheduled as yet. But it is all planned for this coming year.”</p> <p>AK: “Mr. Blom, you've spoken about a pilot study, so I take it the Bergriver is your pilot. What is the future intention? Are you looking only at estuaries? Are you looking at maybe if you take Saldanha as an example, what about, you know, the harbor and further down in in the the lagoon. And in the Bay. Is there any intention to go further than just estuaries?”</p> <p>PB: “A plan has been developed for the Langebaan Lagoon in conjunction with Pierre Nel. That still needs to be presented, obviously to all the stakeholders for further input. The Saldanha harbour itself. Michelle Pretorius with the AMC in Saldana with the Aquaculture Management Committee. There was a discussion to do a risk assessment for the marking of the aquaculture zones in Saldanha Bay. It was realized that there's never actually been a Safety of Navigation Risk Assessment done for the Port of Saldanha Bay. So the intention is, or we are in the planning stages now for a risk workshop. That will also incorporate all the stakeholders for the Port of Saldana. So there is a preliminary AtoN (Aid to Navigation) Plan for the Port of Saldanha. But that was specifically focused only on the aquaculture.</p> <p>So this workshop would then allow all the stakeholders to be in the room and all the the existing AtoN. You're leading lights coming into Saldanha, the VTS operations. And general safety of navigation within the port of Saldanha. That's also being considered. That's for Saldanha and Langebaan.”</p> <p>AK: “Thank you so much, Mr. Blom. Please include me as a stakeholder for Sadanha Bay Water Quality Forum Trust.”</p> <p>SC: “This was very informative and would it be possible for you to share that presentation to Charles so you could distribute it to the other Members?”</p> <p>PB: “Absolutely, Sandra, I've sent the the presentation to him by e-mail earlier this morning.”</p> <p><u>6.1 Birdlife SA feedback by Dr. G Murison</u> <i>Not present but provided feedback/report.</i></p> <p>Melck Protected Environment (Berg River estuary):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public Participation Process around the Intention to Declare the Melck Protected Environment (PE) on the north bank of the Berg River estuary (including Kruispad and Doornfontein farms) was completed on the 6th of February 2023. No objections, or difficult queries were received, and there were many supporting comments. The declaration process can now 	<p>Giselle Murison giselle.murison@birdlife.org.za</p>
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move forward swiftly, and we hope to see the PE fully declared by the end of 2023.

Safeguarding Blue Carbon Project (including saltmarsh restoration/ environmentally-sound, bankside erosion adaptation):

- This project is focused on the restoration and protection of saltmarsh habitats, the primary blue carbon habitat on the West Coast. The project will be piloted at the Berg River estuary, with potentially the Olifants River estuary as a secondary site.
- The funding source for this now revised project has changed, which has affected the official start date. The project is now set to be launched formally on the 1st of April; however we will look to start the work earlier. The project is running in parallel, and in partnership with NMMU's new blue carbon-focused project, and a team from NMMU will be visiting the Olifants and Berg River estuaries with BirdLife South Africa towards the end of March. BirdLife will reach out to the relevant CapeNature personnel, and any other interested parties, closer to the time, so that they can join us on the site visits. The revised project has similar objectives to the original, with most of the same actions/ outcomes.
- A summary of the project proposal is available.

Coordinated Waterbird Count (CWAC)/ International Waterbird Census Total Count of the East Atlantic Flyway

- This year, we're not just celebrating World Wetland's Day/ Month (in the best way possible – by counting birds with an expanded CWAC), we are also contributing to the **International Waterbird Census - Total Count of the East Atlantic Flyway**.
- As most of you will know, the East Atlantic Flyway links a discontinuous band of arctic breeding grounds that stretch from Canada east to central Siberia with wintering grounds in Western Europe and western Africa (in the latter stage, birds are joined by departing temperate breeders also heading towards Africa). Facing increasing pressures, this flyway is seeing massive declines in certain species, amongst them some of our migrant waders.
- BirdLife South Africa is coordinating South Africa's response for estuaries/ coastal wetlands in the Northern and Western Cape. This is also giving us the opportunity to digitize our observation points/ transect routes (to help maintain continuity going forward), to finalize the registration of new sites, to undertake analyses of longer-term datasets for key sites and to provide feedback on environmental condition and the pressures faced by our estuaries/ coastal wetlands in the flyway.
- BirdLife South Africa would like to extend they're thanks to all CWAC volunteers. CWAC is critical to our understanding of our waterbird populations – their numbers, habitats, and movements, and is integral to much of our estuarine and coastal wetland monitoring. The long-term counts that the Berg, Olifants, Verlorenvlei and Langebaan CWACs (as well as many other sites) represent is valuable beyond measure and is used to underpin scientific research into our waterbirds/ estuaries probably more often than you realize.

6.2 SANParks feedback by Ian Mthethwa

Sorry to join the meeting so late. Actually, I had a busy morning, but that's not an excuse, by the way. I'm standing in for Pierre Nel and William Brinker who was actually, unavailable for this meeting. I thought actually I should be given the background on what has been happening at West Coast National Park in terms of the this meeting. OK, alright. As far as

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<p>6.2 SANParks SANParks</p>	<p>West Coast National Park is concerned, we had a Pelican project at our islands. We also have the honorary rangers project of volunteers. We also had challenges with seal predation who have developed an unusual behaviour of preying or predated on seabirds, the breeding colonies on our islands. So specifically, those breeding colonies would be cormorants and cape gannets being predated on by the seals. So that project started last year in October and this month in February it was completed. The volunteer honorary rangers on the bird islands, would chase away or wave away the pelicans who were coming down to the islands because they're the pelicans would actually disturb those breeding colonies. Then feedback in terms of our own internal study group that we have in SANParks or in West Coast National Park - on a quarterly basis, they will come to visit on our lagoon where they would deploy underwater cameras that are painted just to attract the fish species. Also, as a tracking tool to give us an idea on which fish species do we have in our lagoon, but obviously those deployment will be conducted per zone. There will be deployments around 5 deployments in Zone A and then we give it an hour after an hour then we go back to collect those cameras and then they will be another process that will be done, actually to correlate now that footage from those cameras and then we'll go ahead again to Zone B.</p> <p>And doing the same thing over again up until we go to Zone C which is essential. Just to check the fish diversity in our lagoon what fish are we having and in terms of the diversity just to give us an idea. Something that we can report back to the public in general and another thing I think this one also just to note that there was a presence of NSRI on main beach even though there were not actually incidents that were reported to us. The visitors' figures last year in 2020, December and 2021 January, we had about 39,000 visitors coming to West Coast National Park. Obviously, the attraction would be our marine environment which is our lagoon part. This year there these figures improved to 42 093. Thank you very much."</p> <p>Questions: SC: "Thank you so much. It is interesting. We had quite a boom. It seems, during this holiday period, not just with people, but also with birds. Thank you so much for your feedback. It was extremely interesting. And then I would just like to also welcome Mr. Basson Geldenhuys who joined and Mr. Gerhard Cilliers' who also joined late and we have been moving quite fast with all the feedback because many of the normal feedback or the usual feedback organizations have made apologies."</p>	<p>org</p>
<p>6.3 CapeNature</p>	<p><u>6.3. CapeNature feedback by Donnie Malherbe:</u></p> <p>DM: "I'll quickly jump into that one thing he actually noted there was for Bird Island where we actually had a record number of gannets 40,000 birds. And they haven't really been that numbers in Bird Island for real long years. A lot of speculation of the origin of all the birds. But we suspect that might be some of the animals from Malgas Island, Saldana. That's actually visiting Bird Island or Penguin Island in Lamberts Bay. Also, the island was closed for maintenance and they opened on the 1st of December for tourism again. In January, we actually recorded higher amount of visitors than the last two years, so the island and I think Lamberts itself, got a bit of a nice injection there of tourists coming to visit the place. There was a lot of small operations planned where they did a lot of observations etcetera. And two joint Phakisa Operations on the Berg River; 1- a fairly big one where a whole weekend was actually utilized. To check on fishing permits and focusing also on undersized fish. Now for that weekend, approximately 100 permits were checked and approximate ten fines were issued for various offences of fishing without a license collecting baits actually possession of a</p>	<p>Donnie Malherbe gmalherbe@ca penature.co.za</p>

<p>6.4 Cape West Coast Biosphere</p> <p>6.5 TRANSNET – Port Terminals</p> <p>6.6 TRANSNET – Port Authority (TNPA)</p> <p>6.7 Provincial Traffic</p> <p>7. Dept of Public Works (NDPW) Update of Small Fishing Harbours - Maintenan</p>	<p>fish without anything. And then very recent one of this weekend, there was actually two people caught fishing at night on the river, a gill net and boat was actually found and was also confiscated at that stage and a case was opened at the police. And that is basically it's from CapeNature side.”</p> <p>Questions: SC: “It's just interesting how quickly the story on the ground runs in a town, because I heard the very same day that the inspectors were there. Maybe I should ask you is that a good percentage do you normally find so many that are not legal or licensed?”</p> <p>DM: “The reports were the the origin of that operation, focusing on the fishing licenses was plainly focused on. We had a lot of reports of undersized fish and intimidation taking place. The whole suite of stuff. It was a fair size, I think we're about 15 to 20 people operating that weekend. Including we actually had a boat on the river and on the Sunday where they also checked the compliance of the boats. But we were actually pleasantly surprised of the compliance. How actually, well, the people were prepared and we actually we thought we're gonna get more illegal activity than we actually did.”</p> <p>SC: “That's very interesting.” DM: “I agree with you. I think the story is spreading very fast. And everybody that had a license came to the beach the rest stayed at home.”</p> <p>SC: “Yes, that was why I was asking. But I do think that most people really want to comply. Let's hope it's that way around.”</p> <p><u>6.4. Cape West Coast Biosphere-feedback by Annique Umans:</u> Not present.</p> <p><u>6.5 TRANSNET – Port Terminals</u> Not present.</p> <p><u>6.6 TRANSNET – Port Authority (TNPA)</u> Not present.</p> <p><u>6.7 Provincial Traffic</u> Not present.</p> <p><u>7. Department of Public Works (NDPW) Update of Small Fishing Harbours feedback by Basson Geldenhuys:</u> BG: “We do not have any updates of the Small Fishing Harbours, because we finished all the maintenance project work at the small harbours, the maintenance that happened last year in end of March if I can recall correctly. The only issue that was outstanding and I have been not to the last two meetings. I think was the issue with Grotto Bay, with the parking area and illegal structure/house and stuff like that. I am actually on my way to this meeting I received a call from Mr. Joggy Scholtz with regards to that. It seems to me</p>	<p>Annique Umans info@cwcbrc.co.za</p> <p>Marbu Saayman marlon.saayman@transnet.net</p> <p>Ethel Coetzee / Deidre Isaacs ethel.coetzee@transnet.net</p> <p>Desmond Paton Desmond.Paton@westerncape.gov.za</p> <p>Basson Geldenhuys Basson.Geldenhuys@westerncape.gov.za</p>
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<p>e Projects</p> <p>8.1 Department of Human Settlements Water and Sanitation</p> <p>8.2 Compliance & Enforcement matters</p> <p>8.3 Catchment Management Agency “CMA” (Olifants/Berg)</p> <p>9. Fisheries Compliance Enforcement Operation Phakisa matters - West Coast</p>	<p>that there's miscommunication between the West Coast District Municipality and the Swartland Municipality with regards to that. There was some information, or some commitments made by the District Municipality with regards to parking area there at Grotto Bay. But that is only for your information as this issue was previously on the agenda. If I can recall correctly. Thank you.”</p> <p><u>8.1 Department of Human Settlements Water and Sanitation feedback by Melissa Lintnaar-Straus:</u> Not present.</p> <p><u>8.2 Compliance & Enforcement matters</u> Not present.</p> <p><u>8.3 Catchment Management Agency “CMA” (Olifants/Berg)</u> Not present.</p> <p><u>9. DFFE/ Fisheries Compliance Enforcement Operation Phakisa matters - West Coast:</u> CM: “Madam Chair Wade also made an apology. There is ongoing West Coast Operations and things which Wade are quite busy with, which was mentioned at the last Phakisa meeting.”</p>	<p>huvs@dpw.gov.za</p> <p>Melissa Lintnaar-Straus Lintnaar-StraussM@dws.gov.za</p> <p>Melissa Lintnaar-Straus Lintnaar-StraussM@dws.gov.za</p> <p>Samantha Saayman SaaymanS@dw.s.gov.za</p> <p>Derril Daniels DanielsD@dws.gov.za</p> <p>Wade Theron WTheron@dffe.gov.za</p>
<p>10.1 Saldanha Bay Water Quality Trust</p>	<p><u>10. 1. Saldanha Bay Water Quality Trust feedback by André Kruger:</u></p> <p>AK: “We went through our strategic planning session in January. We've made a couple of adjustments to the the mission and the vision and also our various goals. I will be sending a copy of that to Charles. The new updated Saldanha Bay Water Quality Trust Strategy. We also had a work session with scientists on the 8th of February where we looked at the monitoring in the Bay and the lagoon. As far as frequency and what must be monitored is concerned, and that of course attachment there is to everything we do is then coupled financially to that monitoring program. So that is now been updated and we will send a copy of that to Charles as well.</p> <p>So that you people have a copy of what we're going to do and when we're going to do it. We have our AGM this afternoon at the Langebaan Country Estate where we will give feedback to all the contributors to the trust. And inform them of the various strategic</p>	<p>Andre Kruger aklangebaan@gmail.com</p>

<p>10.2 St Helena Bay Water Quality</p>	<p>changes and the new monitoring program and what our financial position is. And then important, as I said last, I will be handing over the chairmanship of the Water Quality Trust to Prof Jacques Bezuidenhout, who from after this afternoon's meeting will be the new Chairperson. He has a scientific background and has done studies all over the world. So I think this will be a great contribution to the way we do things at the Trust where I was mainly a facilitator and strategic in the way of thinking. He is very scientific. So I'm sure that this is going to do a lot for the Trust going forward. And finally this will be my final meeting. I won't be attending these meetings anymore on behalf of the Trust and we have decided that Nazeema, who's also the Saldanha Bay Municipalities representative, will represent the Trust and, on occasion, the new Chairperson. As he's a professor his availability isn't there that he can attend things every time, but on occasion he will be attending. In conclusion, then just thank you then to Charles for all the support that he's given me as a person, and as Chair of this organization, in the past.</p> <p>And also to you as the new Chair, I've listened to how you run things. I'm sure that this MCC will just grow in stature and it will make a great difference on the West Coast.”</p> <p>Questions: SC: “Mr. Kruger please afford me the opportunity to thank you. I think this forum is going to really miss you and you've put many years of hard work into the forum and into the Saldanha Bay Water Quality Trust. I don't think that knowledge like that should go to waste. So I do hope that you will stay in touch with these types of forums in the future.”</p> <p><u>10.2. St. Helena Bay Water Quality Trust feedback by Jan Marx:</u></p> <p>JM: “We had our quarterly trustee meeting with the trustees. After the meeting we received feedback from the fish processing plants. We mainly discussed the finances of the coming year, which is important. We are seriously looking for more contributors to the trust and we are aiming at including Cape Salt and institutions like that. And then secondly, there was a very hot discussion between members of the public and the representatives of the fish processing plants because of the pollution caused by these factories, especially from the people from Shelley Point, because in the beginning of February there was a fatty substance that washed ashore on the beaches from Stompneus Bay right after Britannia Bay, and we still don't know where it came from. But the biggest challenge there in that area presently is the Coastal Water Discharge Pipe from Lucky Star, that they are still working on.</p> <p>They've got a lot of challenges. It is a new pipe. It was anchored to the bottom of the ocean and depends on diver availability and weather. But Mr. Andre Viljoen, that is in charge there, they are really doing their best to solve that problem. So we had very good feedback. That will be distributed within our minutes and that is basically the the main points from the St. Helena Bay Water Quality Trust. Thank you, chair.”</p> <p>Questions: SC: “I still have an open item for follow up and that was about the two Trusts who wanted to have a meeting with the Municipal</p>	<p>Dr Jan Marx jantmarx@gmail.com</p>
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	<p>Managers and Mayors to actually speak about some of these issues, like the Coastal Water Discharge Permits, like the testing that is done all over by the various departments. The next meeting where I can actually make a representation on that will be tomorrow, so hopefully I will have some feedback for the meeting by the next meeting. And the purpose of that was actually to get buy in from the locals to also help and assist the various departments that have jurisdiction there to have their resources strengthen to be able to do their legislated and mandated work. That is quite a big thing and it has been dragging on for some time so we are hoping that we will have some movement by our next meeting.”</p>	
<p>11. Estuary Advisory Forums – Chairperson Feedback 11.1 Berg River Estuary Advisory Forum</p> <p>11.2 Verlorenvlei Estuary Advisory Forum</p> <p>11.3 Olifants River Estuary Advisory Forum</p> <p>12. Municipal Feedback: Municipal Coastal Management Programs, PLS Sites & Operational Plans,</p>	<p><u>11.1 Bergrivier Municipality & Berg River Estuary Advisory Forum:</u></p> <p>JM: “Thank you, chair. We had a very constructive meeting last week Thursday. The main matters that were discussed was the estuary management plan and then establishing a special management area or conservation plan for the lower Berg Estuary. It was Mr. Pierre de Villiers from Cape Nature that gave feedback there. There is a lot of progress going on and then there is also now they want to really find the Berg Estuary as a core area within the Cape West Coast Biosphere. So, we have representatives from the Biosphere that we have explained to us what it entails, and it is quite a lengthy process to get that done. We did speak about the water quality and monitoring systems that is in place presently an ongoing project. We had feedback from Ground Truth on their minisass project with which they are busy. The rangers gave feedback on their compliance monitoring and enforcement operations. They are doing excellent work those young people operating there. We just had a little discussion about increasing public awareness and education projects that we would like to launch and give attention to.”</p> <p><u>11.2 Verlorenvlei Estuary Advisory Forum</u></p> <p><u>11.3 Olifants River Estuary Advisory Forum feedback by Mellisa Naiker:</u></p> <p>MN: “Chair I was requested by Elbe Cloete to chair the last meeting, but I actually didn’t prepare anything particularl for the Oliphants Estuary Advisory Forum but I am sure Charles has included something within his feedback on that. I can perhaps add in when Charles mentions the Oliphants.”</p> <p>CM: “Chair, I will capture some of the estuary feedback in my presentatation.</p> <p><u>12.1 Swartland Mun</u></p> <p>NA: “Just an apology for Councillor AK Warnick, he is at the SALGA Climate change induction for the three days. I was waiting for feedback from him if he is in the meeting or not. He just sent me a message that he is not available, and he ask to send an apology for this meeting. Yzerfontein is still ongoing, everything is looking well. Our festive season has ended, and I can report that no incidents took place. Just some interesting things that happened; there was a new underground cable that was laid. I don’t know if you are</p>	<p>Neale Africa AfricaN@swartland.org.za</p>

<p>Coastal Awareness, Education & Training, Coastal Access & Compliance & Enforcement and Municipal Coastal By-law (Local Gov)</p> <p>12.1 Swartland Mun</p>	<p>aware of it during December and they completed it yesterday. Just putting some extra protection on the cable. The beach clean-ups that are continuing. The last beach clean-up happened over the weekend and there was about fifty people that participated. There is incredibly positive feedback from the organizers that everything is going quite well. There is erosion taking place 16-mile side. I do not know if you are aware of this problem that was reported. There is a meeting with our local government on the 2nd of March. From that meeting we will discuss what is taking place and what happened over the years pertaining the erosion. Out of that meeting they will decide what can be done to help the situation just to stop any erosion taking place any further. From the bylaw enforcement side, there was an arrest made on 31 January where a male was arrested for the possession of abalone about thirty-three chucked abalone. They were three divers and they only caught one but the vehicle and the boat, everything was impounded. If you want chair, I can give the case number.”</p> <p>SC: “I am unsure if anybody needs the case number. Maybe if somebody wants to stay up to date, they can then just contact you for the case number.”</p> <p>NA: “Sure not a problem. There was an arrest made, it was in conjunction with DEFF. The person who made the arrest was the inspector, Mr. Mapulie. Further on the bylaws regarding the beaches permits, there is a process for people who want to do a film shoot and weddings-that is still ongoing. We control and monitor any activity there just to see if they comply with our bylaws.</p> <p>Something interesting happened, beginning of January someone put up a sign between the rocks by Schaap Eiland. We tried to contact the family. The Krige family. I did find a family member, but she wasn’t aware of it. The sign was then removed, beginning of February that was taken to the Krige museum in Stellenbosch. The family was quite happy. We couldn’t find the family members that actually did that but at least it was removed, that contravened the bylaws and all that laws regarding putting up signs at or on the beaches”.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>SC: “Thank you Mr. Africa. I think you made national news at least with the erosion on the 16 Mile beach because I read about that in some national news somewhere. I cannot remember where.”</p>	
<p>12.2 Saldanha Bay Mun</p>	<p><u>12.2 Saldanha Bay Mun</u></p> <p>Not present-made an apology.</p> <p>AK : “I just have a question which relates to what Charles has said right in the beginning about responsibilities of Municipalities. I am not talking on behalf of the Saldanha Bay Municipality, I am just backing Charles in what he said that Municipalities must take charge of dead animals on their beaches. There has been an incident in the last month or two, enormous amounts of dead seals on Saldanha’s beaches and there was quite an argument as to whose responsibility it is. And the community is looking at government and saying government does not know what it is doing. So, this issue is important and should be sorted out as quickly as possible. I am aware of this incident in Saldanha Bay, and I would think that Charles would investigate this and do the necessary so that we can</p>	<p>Nazeema Duarte Nazeema.Duarte@sbm.gov.za</p>

<p>12.3 Bergrivier Mun</p> <p>12.4 Cederberg Mun</p> <p>12.5 Matzikama Mun</p> <p>12.6 West Coast District Mun</p>	<p>inform the community accordingly.”</p> <p>SC: “Thank you Mr. Kruger. Yes, I agree that is why I specifically mentioned this, and we call it the rock lobster contingency plan, but it actually should include all dead sea animals as well as other pollution from the sea. It is quite important that it gets discussed at a higher level. That we can come to an agreement so that everybody knows what they are supposed to do and not fight behind closed doors when the problem is already on the beach.”</p> <p>GC: “Just to come in on this; as far as we are involved in these dead animals but as far as I understand is your local municipalities responsibility to remove the dead animals whoever is burying it or taking it to a disposal facility, which is how I understand it.”</p> <p>SC: “That is also how I understood it but not all municipalities has made peace with that yet so we will get there.”</p> <p>JM: “Just shortly_our problems are not over, there is still coming satellite image harmful Algal Blooms, from Dwarskersbos to Elands Bay, there is another possible Red Tide incident in process to happen, so I think there is still some challenges to come.”</p> <p>SC: “That is horrible news and not necessarily just for the Municipality but also for the rock lobster population so I think everybody will take note. I hope the necessary authorities will be alerted. Bergriver Municipality already take care of the dead animals on their seashore.”</p> <p><u>12.3 Bergrivier Municipality</u> Not present-made an apology.</p> <p><u>12.4 Cederberg Municipality</u> Not present-made an apology.</p> <p><u>12.5 Matzikama Municipality</u> Not present-made an apology.</p> <p><u>12.6 West Coast District Municipality</u> See presentation by Charles Malherbe.</p> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <p>SC: “Thank you so much for a detailed presentation, Charles. I think also touching on some of the issues that has been raised by some of the other members and adding to my little list of what we need to follow up on as soon as possible.”</p> <p>BG: “I would like to congratulate the Swartland Municipality that they had the guts to impound one of the vehicles, which is the way</p>	<p>Angila Joubert JoubertA@Bergmun.org.za</p> <p>Danne Joubert dannej@cederbergmun.gov.za</p> <p>Thesme van Zyl thesme@matzikama.gov.za</p> <p>Charles Malherbe cjmalherbe</p>
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	<p>that we going to stop these types of activities. The other thing about Charles’s presentation; we are worried about and that is true about the mining. We should also be worried about the camping because the way West Coast, there is illegal camping everywhere. And they are also destroying the environment and the coastal areas, it is not only the mining. We are too focused on the mining and forget about the camping. The last thing is, DFFE and even the mining DMR their Law Enforcement people, it seems to me that nothing is happening because there is a lot of notices been issued but you do not see anything happening to those people. Where they are being charged because NEMA does provide for criminal offences, and we do not see it until that happens, I am afraid we will be stuck just where we are, and we will get nowhere.”</p> <p>SC: “You are echoing on Charles’s question on where the Law Enforcement is because we have all these rules and even for the coastal discharge and things like that but there is no monitoring. Nothing happens to anybody who does not comply, and this is a problem because it doesn’t help that you have a rule, but nobody enforces the rule.”</p> <p>JM: “I just want to make a comment regarding the compliance monitoring of the fish processing plants. We had meetings, me and the Chair of St Helena Bay Water Quality Trust, Colin de Kock with Mr. Petersen and other officials of DFFE and the biggest problem is that they are a hand full of people. And they must monitor South African Coast from Port Nolloth right down to Kozi Bay. And they just cannot get to it. The biggest challenge here on the West Coast is that you have not got somebody locally, for instance sitting in Saldanha Bay that we can contact if there is pollution in St Helena Bay or the Berg River. So that is the problem. In terms of the compliance, the challenge there is that we have not got an official on the ground who can assist us with investigations.”</p> <p>SC: “Thank you Mr. Marx I noticed that is also one of the items on the District Co-ordinating Forum agenda and it is about trying to get to the attention of the department to ensure that they beef up their compliance enforcement. I agree one person cannot do all of this and there are other government departments like DFFE who have the same problem.”</p>	<p>@wcdm.co.za</p>
<p>13. DEA&DP Feedback on Provincial Coastal Management Program, State of the Coast Programme, Coastal Access, EMFIS Project, Education and Awareness, Provincial Erosion &</p>	<p>13. DEA&DP Feedback on Provincial Coastal Management Program, State of the Coast Programme, Coastal Access, EMFIS Project, Education and Awareness, Provincial Erosion & Estuaries Task Team, CML Process, PLS Sites (DEA&DP Provincial Gov) feedback by Mellisa Naiker:</p> <p>MN: “There is not much to report on from the Provincial Department currently. Just a few updates in terms of establishing the coastal management line for the Province, the Department has not been successful in appointing a service provider to draft the assessment for the coastal management line which I reported on last time. Reason is we need the implementation assessments to establish the line. It’s a cabinet requirement, so we are looking into ways of an alternative means of conducting the RIA and we will keep the municipalities informed of this. In terms of the estuary management programme, we are submitting another five estuary management plans to the MEC for approval, but I do believe that CapeNature will also be finalizing and submitting some of the West Coast Estuary Management Plans to the Department for approval as well. I am not sure if Donny has an update on that, but Pierre indicated that at the last meeting that he is finalizing some of the comments from the workshop for Olifant’s that was held at the end of last year and the Verlorenvlei is also being finalized. The matter of the Berg EMP-the documents will be put together and provided to DFFE as the Department indicated at the end of last year as well that they will be the Responsible Management Authority for the Berg River Estuary. And they will take the process of approving the EMP forward. In terms of public launch sites - Ms Nyanisa Tshaya</p>	<p>Mellisa Naiker Mellisa.Naiker@westerncape.gov.za</p>

<p>Estuaries Task Team, CML Process, PLS Sites (DEA&DP Provincial Gov)</p>	<p>who is in charge of the PLS process has indicated that all the West Coast Municipalities have submitted their public launch sites support letters to the Provincial Department indicating that they are putting forward certain number of launch sites to be placed on the gazetted list. And they also supporting the maintenance and management of those sites which is positive. It is taking a long time because we do need all the municipalities to provide the information that was requested during the engagements to Nyanisa and then that list, the draft list, will be put to a government gazette notice which will then go out for official public comment once that is concluded. The Minister will be able to publish a new public launch site list which will then be open to the public to use. The Municipalities for West Coast, some of them submitted their operational plans for those sites that they have put forward but there are still a few that are outstanding, and the team is working on supporting municipalities in concluding those. Charles did mention that there is councillor training happening this week, we are presenting tomorrow, the session in Milnerton Library. It will be on the Integrated Coastal Management Act. Further there is some capacity building on access, not for all the municipalities but it will be focused in the Garden Route area.”</p> <p>Questions: SC: “I just have a question and Charles maybe I am jumping something, but the West Coast District has received communication regarding the request of adopting a bylaw for coastal access land. I see that is also under your feedback list which we will now possibly proceed with and keep everybody updated as we go along with the process.”</p>	
<p>14. DFFE Feedback on National Coastal Management Program, Coastal Zonation's & Supporting Information, NEMP, ORV's, Coastal Signage, Coastal Water Discharging Permits, Enforcement and Compliance (DFFE National)</p>	<p><u>14. DFFE Feedback by Lutendo Musetsho:</u></p> <p>LM: “I do not have much feedback in terms of projects. The department have got two cleaning and greening programs in the pipeline. The first one it was supposed to start last year in December, but unfortunately due to administrative issues from the department side, it has not started, but the department has communicated that they have appointed implementers. They are just waiting for a purchase order so that we can start with the implementing of that project. The second program it's also cleaning and greening project, but it will be a partnership between the department and the municipality where the municipalities will provide the tools of trade, the PPE and the department will be responsible for paying off the salaries. I have sent letters to municipal managers regarding this program. And there is also a letter that was sent to Saldanha Bay Municipality for a driver development program, which is aimed at addressing unemployment in local opportunities that will benefit their communities. Unfortunately for this project now Saldanha Bay Municipality was the only municipality that was identified for it. From the 13th until the 17th of March, the West Coast District, and the other district in the Western Cape, they will be shortlisting for the youth environmental coordinators. So, the municipalities were all invited to participate in the shortlisting. And at this point, it is only Saldanha Bay Municipality that has responded to say they will be attending the shortlisting. So, I am still waiting for the other municipalities to confirm attendance. I am not sure if Charles will be part of the shortlisting or only part of the of the interviews, which will be conducted at a later stage at the district office.”</p> <p>Questions: SC: “I hope that you have made notes of all the times DFFE were mentioned in the list. I am sure it’s not all your responsibility but</p>	<p>Lutendo Musetsho LMusetsho@dfef.gov.za</p>

<p>Gov) 14.1 Coastal Water Quality Monitoring - West Coast 14.2 Compliance & Enforcement matters - West Coast 14.3 DFFE Environmental Local Gov Support Programs - Working for the Coast, EPIP, Youth Projects, Coastal Monitors and related projects (DFFE National Gov) - West Coast</p>	<p>that the feedback can get to the correct officials regarding the Coastal Water Discharge Permits and the Enforcement and Compliance issues. We all try to drive it from all sides to get resolution from those.”</p>	
<p>15 Next MCC Meeting Dates (24 May; 23 Aug; 08 Nov) Time 09:00 – 13:00.</p> <p>Closure</p>	<p>Next MCC Meeting Dates is scheduled for 24 May 2023. Time 09:00 – 13:00.</p> <p>SC: “That brings us to the end of the meeting before we go to the next meeting date of 24 May 2023. I want to thank everybody for being with us and taking the time. We really appreciate it, and we would like to see forward movement. I will be in contact with the relevant people on the actions that we’ve noted so far. As a last comment to Andre Kruger; thank you very much for being here, thank you very much for all the years that you’ve put in to this meeting and into various other environmental issues and we hope that you enjoy the little bit of time off and then possibly in future we will be seeing you again.”</p> <p>AK: “Thank you Sandra that is well accepted by myself it was most enjoyable. I have already thanked Charles, he is a wonderful secretary/environmentalist for the West Coast. We are lucky to have him. To all the participants it has been wonderful serving with you for the last ten years and all the best for the future. You are doing an extremely important job, keep it going. And thank you very</p>	<p>Ald Sandra Crafford depmayor@wcdm.co.za</p>

much for giving me the opportunity. I have learned a lot and I have grown throughout this period. Thank you very much.”

SC: “Thank you so much, Andre. And with that, we will close the meeting until the 24th of May. Thank you, everybody.”

CM: “I just shared the red tide satellite image, that Dr. Jan Max referred to during the meeting.

MS: “Not good news at all. Thank you.”

CM: “Municipalities just take note in their area.”

SC: “It is something that should be mentioned tomorrow at the Council meeting. Is it possible for you to send that image just to maybe to the Municipal Manager or to me?”

CM: “Yes, I will send it on now.”

SC: “Thank you so much, Charles.”