

# **AMEU HIGHVELD BRANCH**

## **MINUTES OF THE 272<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE AMEU HIGHVELD BRANCH, HOSTED BY ABB, ON FRIDAY 24 MAY 2013 IN LONGMEADOW BUSINESS ESTATE, MODDERFONTEIN.**

### **1. OPENING - WELCOME**

Mr. Kobus Mynhardt welcomed everyone present and thanked the hosts ABB for the use of their venue.

Mr. Robert Mallinson opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Neil Jackson from ABB welcomed all the members, affiliates and visitors. He enlightened the meeting about the emergency drills and the excavation routes as well as the nearest rest rooms and facilities.

### **2. VISITORS**

All the visitors were welcomed and the following names were mentioned:

Koos Bezuidenhout – RBI Asset Management  
Goodman Mthethwa - Beka

### **3. ATTENDANCE**

See attached copy of the attendance register.

### **4. APOLOGIES**

Hannes Roos	Robert Spark
Leon Schultz	Chris Koen
Johan Dreyer	Geoff Duffy
Stephen Delpont	Dolf Du Preez
Serutle Ntlatleng	Yoann Joyeux
Frans Brandow	

### **5. MOTIONS**

The passing of Koos Algera was mentioned.  
Buddy Nel passed away in January.  
Frik Erasmus was involved in a serious accident. He is back at work.

### **6. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The previous minutes was approved.  
Proposed by Max Clarke and seconded by Refilwe Mokgosi.

### **7. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None

## **8 NEW MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

8.1 Mr. Robert Spark requested by mail that the following 3 points be discussed under new matters:

Generators from 50kVA and upwards

- How many applications have been received by supply authorities where customers wants to install a generator on his premises
- What department would handle such an application and is permission necessary
- Which department will check such a generator to make sure if it complies with SANS and other bylaws

Mr. Tony Mc Donald mentioned that this could be a problem as there is currently no real feedback or co-operation between suppliers, authorities and municipalities.

Mr. Gerrit Teunissen told the meeting that there is a document that can be used as guidance in this regard. (NRS 098).

He also mentioned that the AMEU asked him and a group of people to work as a task team and do a document regarding this issue. Also to look into the financial implications that this might have on a supplier like City Power. They are busy with this but it is an ongoing process. It is also difficult as authorities want applicants to save energy but at the same time suppliers do not want to loose revenue either.

Mr. Peter Fowles mentioned that standby generators are for own use and does not have anything to do with municipalities. The problem however would start when these generators are used to feed back into the grid. This would also include other systems such as PV panels, etc. This could cause losses to municipalities.

## **9. PROGRESS REPORTS**

### **9.1 AMEU Executive Council**

Mr. Peter Fowles gave feedback from the last AMEU executive committee meeting.

Affiliates are concerned about the attendance of municipality representatives at meetings.

Western Cape meetings are very well attended by their municipalities.

The Eastern Cape has a poor attendance by their municipalities.

Mr. Fowles mentioned that a document is now available regarding a court case where the municipality switched off the power to a consumer that did not pay for the electricity. The court case is available on the website and is well worth studying.

Smart meters (Regulation R773) – NERSA is not comfortable with a “blanket exemption”. AMEU addressed a letter to NERSA for blanket exemption for municipalities on 10 January 2013. NERSA will respond too AMEU letter.

Municipal guideline increase – 2013/14. NERSA RFD and review of IBT draft letter drawn 26March 2013.

EDI meeting will take place next Tuesday 28 May 2013 (Workshop format)

2013 Convention will be hosted by Buffalo City Metro Municipality on 6 to 9 October. The call for papers was issued and the deadline for proposals was 29 March.

Report available on the AMEU website.

## **10. EXPANSION OF NETWORK / AMEU NEWS LETTER**

- Max mentioned that newsletter 79 has gone out. Spare copies are available at the meeting and anyone that did not receive a copy is welcome to collect one.
- It is also be available on the AMEU website.
- Anyone not getting their copies must contact Max by phone or on email at [mppc@mweb.co.za](mailto:mppc@mweb.co.za).
- Feedback also needed of what you don't want in the newsletter.
- We need more advertising as well as more interesting material and news.
- The next issue will be no. 80 and will therefore be a bit bigger and more special.
- Anyone who wants to advertise in the news letter can contact him.

## **11. NEWS FROM THE AFFILIATES**

Kim Dare gave feedback as follow:

- The affiliate's golf day at Blue Valley Country Club was a huge success.
- The affiliates are arranging another golf day on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November. They would need about 30 four balls and wants everyone to support.
- Finances are looking good at this stage.
- The deadline, for the call for papers for the convention, was 29 March.
- Final call for papers will go out in August.
- Stands for exhibiting will be sold on a first come, first buy basis.

## **12. NEWS FROM OTHER AMEU BRANCHES**

### **12.1 BUSHVELD BRANCH**

- Peter Fowles reported that they had their meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May and it was well attended.

### **12.2 NATAL BRANCH**

- Their last meeting was held in March and approximately 65 people attended.

### **12.3 GOOD HOPE BRANCH**

- The Good Hope Branch meeting took place in Saldanha last week Friday which was very well attended. (+120 people).

### **12.4 FREESTATE BRANCH**

- Meeting took place on 16 April and was a bit of a disaster as only two munics attended.

## 12.5 PIESA

- Had their meeting on 14 and 15 May.
- Main conference will be held in La Lucia later this year.

## 13 CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence received were apologies sent through by email.
- Email from Robert Spark rendering his apologies and requesting to place the three points up for discussion under new matters. See par. 8.1.

## 14 PRESENTATIONS

The following presentations were presented:

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1) Comprehensive non-intrusive on-line substation condition assessment | - Martec - John Sheriff       |
| 2) Transformers  | - ABB – Markus Stolz          |
| 3) Changing times in the electrical industry                           | - ERIC / ECB – Tony Mc Donald |
| 4) NERSA – Annual reporting on QoS: Why                                | - NWU – Johan Rens            |

## 15 NEXT MEETING

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 30 August 2013 | - Venue to be advised                  |
| February 2014  | - Possibly “Lucy Switchgear” or “ERIC” |

## 16 SPONSORS

The chairman again thanked ABB for the venue and the food.

## 17 CLOSURE

Evert Van Helden closed the meeting with prayer.  
The business of the meeting closed at 13h45.

## 18 OFFICE BEARERS & CONTACT DETAILS

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