

MINUTES OF THE 85TH MEETING OF THE AMEU FREE STATE AND NORTHERN CAPE BRANCH HELD AT THE EMOYA WILDLIFE ESTATE, BLOEMFONTEIN, ON FRIDAY, 15 APRIL 2011

1. Opening and Welcoming

The Chairperson, Mr LG Kritzinger, welcomed all to the 85th meeting of the Free State and Northern Cape Branch. A special word of welcome was extended to Mr Michael Rhode, president of the AMEU. Mr Rhode delivered a short address to the meeting and requested the meeting to consider the following question for deliberation later:

- What do members expect from the AMEU?

Attendance register was in circulation and is hereto attached.

2. Scripture reading and prayer

Pastor Siphon opened the meeting with scripture reading and prayer.

3. Attendance Register, Apologies, Visitors and New Members

Attendance - See Attached

Apologies - Q Etsebeth
Tony Coetzer
Schalk Venter
Edgar Louw

4. Approval of the minutes of the 84th meeting

Mr Tienie Blaauw proposed adoption of the minutes of the 84th AMEU Free State and Northern Cape branch meeting, held at the Highlands Hotel, Ficksburg and was seconded by Mr Peter Fowles.

5. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Mr Peter Fowles reminded the meeting of the AMEU Technical Convention planned to be held in Cape Town on 26, 27 & 28 September 2011. It should also be noted that transport will not be provided between the venue and the accommodation.

The ECA was invited to attend the AMEU branch meeting, but was not represented and no apology was received.

6. Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

7. **News from the Affiliates** None

8. **Report by the Executive Council**

Presentation attached to the minutes.

Peter Fowles again urged members to ensure that the subscriptions are paid to date.

The Electrical Machinery regulations will be placed on the website for members' perusal.

Municipalities were urged to get involved in the local committee meetings related to non-ferrous metal theft.

Rens will provide the information re. the schedule of meetings in a specific area and the contact details of the conveners of the said meetings.

The National Electrification Advisory Committee is discussing the eligibility of "bonded" houses being provided with an electrification subsidy and comments will be forwarded to members for discussion / input.

The poor attendance of meetings was again discussed and the following proposal was made:

- AMEU branch (incl. affiliates) should consider funding the travel & subsistence cost of municipal representatives to attend the branch meeting.
- Possible sponsors & invitees to be identified

9. **Presentation: BEKA Lighting**

The launch of BEKA's newest addition to their high wattage streetlight range of luminaires, the BEKAVIA range, was presented by Gerhard Rademeyer.

Presentation is too large to send via e-mail.

10. **Presentation: NRS 048 - 9**

Jose Correia (System Resilience @ Eskom) presented NRS 048 – Part 9, a national protocol for the management of two types of emergencies, i.e.:

System constraints - load *shedding* and/or *curtailment*

(ii) National or regional blackout - load and system restoration.

Guidelines on the appropriate treatment of:

(i) *critical loads*;

(ii) *essential load requirements* of customer installations.

Municipalities were urged to familiarise themselves with this document.

A concern was raised that the load shedding of small / rural towns / networks have an impact on the supply of

bulk water to the larger Municipalities / Metros and this should be factored into the plans.

The measurement of the impact of the load being shed was also a contentious issues in the past and affected Municipalities can contact Eskom for clarity, if required. Presentation is hereto attached.

11. Presentation: CBI Electric

A very informative presentation was shared by Kieron Leeburn re. the CBI Electric initiative / innovation to prevent cable theft.

Presentation is hereto attached.

12. Presentation: Lucy Switchgear

Philip Fouche provided the meeting with some insight into the benefits of Distribution Automation.

Distribution companies implementing distribution automation (DA) are receiving benefits from many areas such as providing a fast method of improving reliability, making the whole operating function more efficient, or simply extending asset life.

Presentation is hereto attached.

11. General

It was suggested that SALGA representatives should be invited to the next meeting.

Presentations proposed for the next meeting are:

- Aberdare cables – Thami Mdwabe
- SWH & Heat Pump program – Eskom

12. Expression of Gratitude

The Chairperson expressed his gratitude to the attendees, members of AMEU and the Affiliate Members. He further expressed gratitude to all the sponsors; Lucy Switchgear, CBI Electric, RPS Engineering, Beka, Eskom & Centlec.

13. Date and Place of the Next Meeting

Meeting dates for the rest of the year 2011 are as follows:

- 26 August 2011; venue not confirmed, possibly Kimberley
- 18 November 2011 in Ficksburg
- Members were requested to share information and forward possible agenda items to the Chairperson at lqk@centlec.co.za or the Secretariat @

stephen.koopman@eskom.co.za.

14. Closing

The chairperson wished everyone a safe journey home.
The meeting was adjourned at 13:10.