



MINUTES OF THE SANCOLD ANNUAL MEETING 11

17:00 Wednesday 06 November 2019

aha Kopanong Hotel, Benoni.

1. Welcome and attendance

The Chairperson, Dr Quentin Shaw, welcomed all of the attendees and requested them to sign the attendance register. The meeting was attended by 29 members and 6 observers. No formal apologies had been received.

2. Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting (Approval and matters arising)

The draft minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting had been circulated to members of Manco who commented and then placed on the SANCOLD website. No further amendments were proposed. The minutes were approved, (proposed H-J Wright, seconded L Hattingh) and will be placed on the website. No issues were raised under Matters Arising.

3. SANCOLD Chairperson's Annual Report 2019

The Chairperson verbally presented the SANCOLD Annual Report for 2019. The written report is recorded separately on the website.

The Chairperson also raised the possibility of holding regular, more informal and participatory workshops on topical issues which could be developed into SANCOLD Position Papers.

4. SANCOLD Website

The website under Webmaster, Mr Henry-John Wright, was functioning well and any issues could be brought to his attention at webmaster@sancold.org.za.

5. Financial Matters

The SANCOLD Treasurer, Mr David Cameron-Ellis gave an overview of the financial situation for 2017 where a profit of some R550 000 accrued. New accounting software had been implemented successfully. It was of concern that many membership fees for the current financial year were still outstanding and that these members had not reacted to reminders and were to have their membership terminated (some 8 non paid-up members had registered for this conference using the member discount). The importance of correctly identifying references on deposits and transfers was highlighted. Not all of the budget for the Scholarship was used in 2018 and would be carried forward to the 2019 Scholarship. The Chairperson expressed his appreciation for all the work that the Treasurer had spent on SANCOLD financial matters.

6. YPF Issues

YPF Chairperson Jaretha Lombaard summarised YPF membership criteria as less than 40 years of age but with discounts and prizes limited to those under 35. Records reflected some 30-40 members but as previous application forms had not recorded date of birth, it was important to supply details to Secretary to qualify. YPF held their first social evening in August 2018 and were planning regular afternoon lectures in 2019 starting with Alan Chemaly covering Dam Engineering followed by Gerald de Jager on Water Resource modelling. More details would follow.

7 Discussion

The following major issue was raised leading to a lengthy discussion:

- The lack of participation of DWS in SANCOLD affairs was raised by Dr Mike Shand. The Chairperson explained that the problems at DWS had been highlighted in the press and a new Minister had been appointed, The State was the owner of most of the large dams. DWS was the custodian of state water infrastructure in South Africa and had two reserved Corporate member positions on SANCOLD Manco for which they should pay, only one had currently been paid while the other was in default. The question was raised whether DWS membership should be suspended but support was expressed that rather to continue with attempts to normalise relations with DWS. Normally DWS provided financial support to SANCOLD by staff attending the annual conference in large numbers. Almost no DWS members attended the conference this year due to their financial constraints but attendance from the private sector had ensured the financial viability of the conference. There had been various attempts to meet with the previous Ministers but with little success. The Chairperson had received an invitation to a session with the new DWS Minister at Birchwood the next

day at which it was hoped some of the problems could be highlighted. SANCOLD would continue with efforts to secure an interview with the new Minister to discuss how they could provide support to DWS. SANCOLD would continue to support dam safety issues but would not remain silent if matters deteriorated.

Danie Badenhorst supported that SANCOLD allow the new Minister the opportunity to stabilise DWS while continuing to attempt to gain an interview with him. He further felt that as major beneficiary of SANCOLD activities, DWS needed to budget funding for SANCOLD.

Graeme Simpson discussed issues experienced with non-performance by DWS in issuing water licences but that these had been resolved through the Water Tribunal.

- **Interaction with ECSA**

SANCOLD's interaction with ECSA was queried. It was explained that the APP approval process was hosted by ECSA but the approval committee was appointed by the DWS Minister. The ECSA CEO attended the previous SANCOLD conference.

8. Closure

The Chairperson in conclusion mentioned that SANCOLD has been continued to be active. The Chairperson closed the meeting at 18h00.