



## MINUTES

### AMEU AFFILIATES VIRTUAL MAIN MEETING

#### PLACE

VIA Microsoft Teams

#### TIME

29 November 2022 @ 09:00 – 11:00

Description	Action
<p><b>1. Welcome – Notice convening the meeting</b> Keseree Rajoo opened the meeting and welcomed all, affiliate members, honorary members, committee members and all other attendees to the meeting.</p>	<b>KR</b>
<p><b>2. Attendance and apologies</b> Apologies were received from: Lomile Modiselle (WIE Chairperson), Gordon Arons, Jayshree Pershad, Patrick O’Halloran and Vally Padayachee who asked to be excused early.</p>	
<p><b>3. Minutes of previous meeting</b> Dave Turton (DT) proposed and Paddy Padayachee (PP) seconded</p>	
<p><b>4. Matters arising</b> None</p>	
<p><b>5. Correspondence</b> None Received</p>	
<p><b>6. Memberships</b> Jean Venter stated that from 1 January 2022 to 30 November 2022 several companies had joined the AMEU. These companies are: Regent Lighting Solutions LL Energy CC Zama Traffic Signals Rocla (Pty) Ltd Africa Utility Solutions CC Patch Industrial Supplies and Consulting Pty Ltd</p>	

Smart Grid Technologies (Pty) Ltd  
Hambisa Engineering  
TSA International (Pty) Ltd  
POWER-C METERING AFRICA (PTY) LTD  
Powercomm Solutions (Pty) Ltd

Mr Venter also stated that unfortunately on a sad note Optron had to resign from their membership and will come back in the future.

## 7. Affiliates Honorary Membership Nominations

Nominations are open for the 2023 Convention.

## 8. AMEU Committee Feedback

8.1 **Supplier Chain Management**- Keseree Rajoo stated that they will communicate when the project for Supply chain management has started in January 2023

8.2 **AMEU Transformation**- Paddy Padayachee stated that the committee has decided to welcome invites from affiliates to nominate members from their companies to serve on the committee. The nomination must be endorsed by the member company as the work involves travelling for meetings. Positions include but are not limited to:

**Financial Management**

**Events Management**

K Rajoo also added that the nomination of co-opted members is to be accompanied with a motivation of the co-opted member to: [affiliate.secretary@vdw.co.za](mailto:affiliate.secretary@vdw.co.za)

## 9. Finance

### J Burn -Balance Sheet as at 21 November 2022

Current Account	R261 513,75
Cash in the bank	R224 423,00
Accounts Receivable	R146 330,25
Market Link Account	R1 544 648,73
Total Assets	R1 952 492,73

A liability of R69 258,88 of VAT making a total of R 2 072 000,11 for shared capital.

A loss of R251 985,80 was recorded due to payments for the Convention not yet fully paid for.

Total Liabilities and Equity R1 952 492,73

### Income Statement

Miscellaneous Account R25 100 -monies paid for the virtual convention in the previous years and a percentage from memberships.

KR

PP

JB

Events	R57 750,13
Exhibition Stands	R19 335,00
Sales Income other	R 442 391,37
Gross profit	R 544 576, 50
Exhibition Costs	R 167 813,75 – direct Exhibition costs paid to Expo Solutions

Golf Days R 42 794,00

Advertising and Promotions total R 833 084,66

A loss of R251 985,80 was recorded but subject to change once payments for the Convention come through.

J Burn also stated that she is in the process of following up on outstanding payments from affiliate member companies..

## 10. AMEU Convention

### Convention

D Turton stated that the exhibition was a success. However, as a growth-point he suggested that in future there be a dedicated time for exhibition stand visits during tea breaks and lunch for affiliate companies to interact with Utilities.

H Roos also added by stating that at Exco the time slot for Exhibitions was raised and it was noted that in future the time slot for exhibition stands visits be considered.

In addition, for 2023 Convention J Venter stated that a venue in Pretoria at the Sun Arena was being considered for the 2023 Convention.

He also further requested that the committee advises for quotation purposes how much space should be considered for 2023 Convention.

J Venter also stated that call for papers will go out as soon as theme has been finalised.

K Rajoo in conclusion invited affiliate companies to also share suggestions to be considered for the 2023 Convention.

### Sports Day

P Padayachee stated that the Sports day was a success and unfortunately there was no time to share the photos at the Convention. However, these had been shared on the social media

DT

PP/JB

<p>platforms at the date of the meeting.</p> <p>J Burn stated that the Sports Dinner was a success and the feedback from most people was they enjoyed the dinner and it is something to be considered again in the future.</p> <p><b>11. Business Leadership Breakfast 2023</b></p> <p>P Padayachee stated that no decision has been made yet regarding 2023 Business Breakfast and feedback will be given in the new year.</p>	<p><b>PP</b></p>
<p><b>12. Golf Day 2023</b></p> <p>J Burn stated that suggestions regarding Venue are welcome from affiliate companies. Suggestions to be emailed to: <a href="mailto:jburn@telkomsa.net">jburn@telkomsa.net</a> or sent on the chat box.</p> <p><b>13. AMEU Executive affairs- Presentation to be circulated</b></p> <p>National Energy Security challenge  ‘We have a national energy security supply challenge characterised by the national electricity crisis and evidenced by the Eskom load shedding’- VP</p> <p>What it means.</p> <p>‘We cannot only solve the loadshedding situation because if we do so we will sit with a national electricity crisis challenge’ VP</p> <p>VP in his presentation also stated that it was discussed at the CORP 26 and CORP 27 that globally there is an energy security challenge, energy equity and environmental sustainability challenge.</p> <p>VP also further went on to explain what is an energy crisis as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Energy security is the uninterrupted provision of vital energy services which is a priority for every country (includes electricity supply)</li> <li>2. Energy security can be further unpacked from three different perspectives i.e. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Robustness – sufficiency of resources, reliability of infrastructure, stable and affordable prices.</li> <li>b) Sovereignty which a country must take care of through policy – protection from potential threats from external agents</li> <li>c) Resilience – ability to withstand diverse disruptions</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. SA is currently in the midst of an electricity crisis evidenced by significant load shedding and the associated hardships, inconveniences, etc experienced by many stakeholders including</li> </ol>	<p><b>JB</b></p> <p><b>VP</b></p>

municipalities, end use customers, etc.

4. The load shedding is expected to last for at least 2 years or more and requires inter alia +- 6000 MWs of new dispatchable power/electrons and the EAF% of Eskom's Gx coal fired fleet to be increased from its current +- 55% to approximately 75%

He also stated that at the joint SAIEE and AMEU the below was discussed:

1. South Africa faces an unprecedented developmental crisis and needs to Future proof
2. The pandemic has served as the final straw to plunge the country into its largest economic downturn in living history
3. Unemployment levels are at their highest on record,
4. Investment ratings have plummeted
5. Many in the emerging middle class have slid back into greater levels of poverty.
6. Meanwhile, the precarious state of state- owned entities – in particular Eskom power utility – remain a large burden on the increasingly constrained national fiscus.
7. An ailing coal- fleet and chronic power cuts continue to cripple economic growth prospects at a time that South Africa needs it most.
8. Rapidly increasing global concerns about climate change pose new threats to our economy, however, these also open up new opportunities

**[Source: A 500-DAY GAME PLAN FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S ENERGY SECTOR, by Dr Grové Steyn, Celeste Renaud and Lonwabo Mgoduso; Meridian Economics; June 2021]**

VP also elaborated on the need for a Balanced prudent migration to a JET in SA as below:

Security of energy supply is a priority for the government and our preoccupation as the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy. Access to sustainable, affordable, and reliable energy is crucial for economic growth and attaining sustainable development goals"

1. Clean energy, including wind power, is set to be a major contributor to a global and sustainable energy system"
2. Energy transition will be a careful balancing act.
3. The transition, will be informed by our national circumstance, capabilities, and the need to maintain energy security in support of economic growth and poverty alleviation.
4. This transition will include the "innovative use" of energy sources such as solar, wind, nuclear, water, coal, oil and gas.
5. [We] intend to move from high carbon emissions to low carbon emissions. However, we will do this in a manner that does not undermine our energy security, economic growth plans and sustainability of local communities
6. "The renewable energy sector must avoid overpromising and

underdelivering. The industry had to keep a careful eye on those who, in their enthusiasm for renewable energy, exaggerated its capabilities. Such exaggeration did more harm than good, and when “reality hits”, critics of renewables would claim that they didn’t work.

7. The energy transition refers to the global move away from high carbon-emitting energy sources to low- or even zero- carbon emitting energy sources.

8. So, a just transition for us is a transition in which there is a secure energy supply, and that energy supply is sustainable [including regarding the environment and climate change], that energy supply is affordable, [and] reliable

9. A just transition would also be one which would enable other sectors of the economy to grow, thereby creating decent jobs. Further, to be just, the transition has to be particular to the South African situation. Each country had to have its own energy transition path.

10. For me, success will be when we don’t talk about loadshedding. A successful transition would also mean that there would also be no need to talk about the environmental or health aspects of energy generation technologies.

**[Source: SA DMRE DG at WINDABA 2022]**

11. 5% of South Africans were satisfied in relation to electricity services provided (2016 view, Afro Barometer). Hence this view is long before the current rolling blackouts phenomenon

12. We must never forget that about 80% of our energy is generated through fossil fuels with coal making about 26% of that. Currently over 80 000 are employed in the coal mining sector and five companies (Anglo Coal, BHP Billiton/ South32/SAEC, Sasol, Exxaro and Xstrata) account for over 80% of coal capacity

13. The sector lost over 10 000 jobs over the last ten years, partially as result of an overemphasis on the move away from coal to other sources.

14. Despite these job losses the level of absorption of the workers in the renewable energy sector has not been good. As the renewable sector requires a slightly higher level of skills and over 81% of coal mine workers have matric or less.

15. We must also take into consideration that our energy demands going forward are likely to double by 2050.

16. Therefore, to mitigate the possibility of a greater energy crisis, rather than disinvesting in coal, we must place greater emphasis on researching and investing on getting cleaner and more efficient coal-based technologies and solutions.

(VP Comment: also, ash dams, underground coal gasification (UCG), gas, SMR nuclear, etc)

17. Even France and Netherlands which are considered amongst the most energy efficient countries in the world, utilise nuclear and fossils at the core of their energy generation mix.

18. We have no choice but to find the appropriate energy mix that will give us the most just of transition

**[Source: SA CoGTA Minister at AMEU CONVENTION 2022]**

In his presentation VP also stated the Eskom legal separation progress as below:

**Key Achievements**

1. PFMA 2 application submitted to DPE and NT (18 July 2022)- approved by NT
2. Future distribution name approved by Eskom Board (29 July 2022)
3. MOI approved by Eskom Board
4. Draft Merger and subscription agreement compiled- pending PFMA 2 application approval
5. Revised Eskom Legal separation programme approved by Eskom Board
6. Distribution company name successfully registered with CIPC (26 Aug 2022)

**14 AMEU Branch Affairs**

D Turton (DT) – stated that unfortunately he could not travel for the Western Cape meeting due to ill-health.

P Padayachee also added that for the Highveld Branch now Gauteng Branch they will be hosting a meeting in February 2023 and will be nominating office bearers for the Branch. P Padayachee will give feedback to the affiliates on the way forward.

**DT**

**15 Distribution of Funds to Branches**

D Turton stated that they did some investigation of Branch Fund allocation during COVID Pandemic. Adrie da Silva has allocated funds into Branches and they will be issued according to the previous breakdown and percentages.

He however stated that there is a need to sharpen the pencil where the Western Cape Branch meetings are concerned in terms of budget for the year 2023.

**DT**

**16 AMEU Awards 2022**

Nominations will be open once Convention plans for 2023 have begun.

**17 SARPA**

Rens Bindeman stated that he would be travelling for the Limpopo meeting in a few days.

He also stated that they are slowly moving from hybrid meetings to physical meetings. Post pandemic meetings for 2022 had been done in all Branches except for Mpumalanga and the last meeting for the year was scheduled to take place on the 1-2nd of December 2022.

R Bindeman also further stated that joint meetings have been a

**RB**

success except for Highveld to be changed to Gauteng Branch. New meeting dates to be added on the AMEU and SARPA website pages using the 2018 footprint. He also stated that the Western Cape group was proposing that they carry on with virtual meetings until June 2023.

SARPA has been involved in presentations, panel discussions and webinars at AMEU, CIGFARO, SALGA, SAIEE, IMPSA-SA and ILGM Conferences and he expressed gratitude to the Secretariat for making this possible.

**Upcoming Events we detailed as below:**

2-3 February 2023- Eastern Cape Branch (Hogsback)

9-10 February 2023- Western Cape Branch (George)

16-17 February 2023- Gauteng Branch (Johannesburg)

23-24 February Limpopo Branch (Polokwane)

R Bindeman also shared in his presentation tasks in progress as follows:

Short workshop series to assist in Revenue protection and new technologies as requested by CIGFARO. MOU was signed at Convention.

Request to assist SAPS in training for Economic Crime Task Teams (EITT) being established in each province

Joint TID Rollover podcast/live chat in conjunction with STS Association with a main focus being small Municipalities. Any information regarding small Municipalities struggling with TID Rollover is welcome.

Development of Revenue protection Library.

In conclusion he stated that the Plettenberg meeting was well attended virtually and in person.

He also opened the question to the floor regarding structure of meetings going forward. K Rajoo and H Roos agreed that where business is concerned face to face is better than virtual and the drive towards face-to-face meeting should continue.

**18 PIESA**

V Padayachee stated the below:

1. PIESA workgroup meetings are continuing virtually and affiliates are encouraged to join. K Rajoo also requested that the dates for the work groups be shared for affiliates to join in.

2. The next round of joint PIESA workgroup meetings plus the PIESA AGM and PIESA Board Meeting will take place in Cape Town sometime end Jan to early Feb 2023

**VP**





He also encouraged members to send in adverts for the Magazine as it is free.

**25 Closing**

KR thanked all for attending, wished everyone happy holidays and closed the meeting