

# WATERWORX

*The official newsletter of Magalies Water*



## EDITOR'S NOTE

*The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.*

- Dolly Parton

We have made it this far and our "WATERWORX" publication is officially a year old. A notable milestone indeed worthy of celebration. This is the last publication for the 2020/21 financial year and we are extremely grateful for how far we have come and how much we have overcome as an organization under trying circumstances.

Despite the tumultuous year we leave behind, Magalies Water has continued to perform well as unpacked by the CE Mr. Sandile Mkhize during the recently held Staff Information Session.

The Chairperson of the Board Ms. Pinky Mokoto also took to the airwaves during the month of June in response to recent attacks on Magalies Water's ability to supply bulk water to the Bojanala District and in particular Rustenburg. This was an important step as part of our Stakeholder Engagement activities, where communities receive first-hand information on the state of water supply in their respective areas.

Let us remain hopeful for new financial year, that Magalies Water, will record more success. To have the organization still intact, is a sign of resilience and passion to continue to serve communities with distinction. We look forward to greater achievements in the 2021/22 financial year.

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## Staff Information Session

The Marketing and Communication department, on behalf of the office of the Chief Executive, organized the second Staff Information Session for the 2020/21 financial year. The session signaled the closure of a very difficult year, which was burdened by the effects of the novel Corona Virus, from which Magalies Water was also not spared. Due to the ongoing restrictions as a result of the increasing number of newer infections, the session was hosted virtually with all of Magalies Water officials participating from their various operational sites.

The Magalies Water CE Mr. Sandile Mkhize, highlighted the organization's achievements for the 2019/20 financial year which included the clean audit received by the institution and thanking employees for their valuable contribution towards this achievement. He further encouraged employees to continue their hard work "This is the highest milestone that Magalies Water has achieved considering that the last time Magalies Water achieved this was in the 2010/11 financial year. This means of the nine water boards, Magalies water is in first position in terms of performance as well as the clean audit opinion" said Mkhize.

He also informed employees on the process of the appointment of permanent Board members by the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation and upon conclusion, they would be notified of the new Board.

The interactive session allowed for staff members to express their concerns in relation to their various working conditions. These included the shared office and accommodation space which posed a risk with regard to COVID infections, the lack of parking space at the Head Office premises.

He assured staff that their concerns will be taken up by EXCO members with the seriousness they deserve. "As EXCO we will engage and see how best employees can continue to work while minimizing the risk and exposure to Covid-19" he added.

He also indicated that together with the Acting COO - Mr. Ofentse Nthutang, they would look into the minor CAPEX budget to address the issue of housing for employees who operate from the entity's plants going forward and also cited that the process of acquiring more office space would begin in the 2021/22 financial year.

Furthermore, the CE also outlined the Magalies Water mandate as well as the bulk water provision process by the institution, he also acknowledged that more engagement needs to happen with municipalities as well as communities in terms of the roles of each stakeholder in this regard.

The session closed with a final word from the CE thanking staff for their engagement and valued inputs during the session and indicated that another session would be held in August 2021 that will provide feedback on the 2020/21 organizational performance





# Stakeholder Engagement

The Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Hon Gwede Mantashe, who is also the District Development Model champion for the Bojanala District Municipal jurisdiction took a tour of the Brits Water Treatment Works (WTW) as part of the Bojanala District Development Model Stakeholder Engagement facilitated by his Department. He was accompanied by several dignitaries from National, Provincial and Local Government in the North West province including Magalies Water board members and CE Sandile Mkhize.

The visit to the WTW was to assess the facility and progress in light of the upgrades of the plant by Magalies Water from a 60Ml/d to 80ml/d plant that will provide potable water to the communities of Madibeng Local Municipality. The project emanates from a bulk water supply challenge experienced by the Madibeng Local Municipality. It had been discovered that the plant was not producing water of acceptable standards due to the quality of the raw water source as well as the condition of the infrastructure in operation.

The Minister was eager to understand Magalies Water's involvement in the project, to which the CE provided a historical overview. Magalies Water was appointed as the implementing agent by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and work commenced immediately with the refurbishment of the WTW. The phase for the upgrading of the Brits Water Treatment Works was planned to follow shortly afterwards. The short-term goal was to optimize the WTW in respect of water quality with the intention to implement a thorough refurbishment phase once the works is back to acceptable state of operation.

However, during the various stages of the project, a number of challenges were encountered which caused significant delays in completion. Project Manager, Jimmy Leburu, conducted a tour of the plant highlighting some of the construction work that was still underway as well as the work that had already been done, despite the challenges.

Minister Mantashe, urged Magalies Water to continue with the good work, and urged the municipality to support Magalies Water in its efforts, whilst also encouraging local mines to step in where required. The meeting then proceeded to the municipal hall where Min. Mantashe gave representatives of mines operating within Madibeng to present their Social Labour Plans (SLPs). The purpose was to encourage mines to consolidate their contributions and prioritise them to address water related projects by directing them towards unblocking projects stalled due to financial challenges. One such project is the Brits WTW upgrade which, once completed, will address much of the water shortage experienced by Madibeng residents.



## Magalies Water Engages Communities Over Water Supply, to Address Rustenburg's Demands

The Board Chairperson of Magalies Water Ms Pinky Mokoto conducted an exclusive radio interview with SABC radio station - Motswedding FM. The Board Chairperson was accompanied by the acting Chief Operations Officer Mr. Ofentse Nthutang. The interview is part of Magalies Water's continued stakeholder engagement which is used as an avenue to keep role players abreast of developments within the organization. Magalies Water public education campaigns includes joint activations which are hosted in the area of operation across the various municipalities, meetings with municipalities as well as communicating on mass media platforms including television and radio.

Magalies Water has continued to express its concern about the growing water demand experienced in the Rustenburg region, which has affected sections of the local economy and has left communities greatly inconvenienced. In her opening remarks Ms. Pinky Mokoto said while Magalies Water provides an essential service, communities need to understand the interdependent relationship it has with other state-owned entities such as Eskom and local municipalities key to the financial eco-system of the entity "while we understand fully the inconvenience that our communities experienced, the pressure in the national electricity grid had impeded on our ability to ensure that we provide bulk water supply to communities. Further to that, we urge communities, to also note that the culture of non-payment and or late payments have a knock-on effect in our operations" Mokoto said.

She added that, to ensure that South Africa and the region continues to have water, communities need to participate fully in their civil duty, by reporting incidents which may lead to plant shutdowns, resulting in prolonged water supply interruptions such as vandalism to infrastructure, theft as well as illegal electrical connections which further burden the constrained power grid nationally. Magalies Water, said through its acting Chief Operations Officer, plans were afoot to improve the bulk water supply around the Bojanala District. Nthutang said, the issue of non-payment and late payments



impacts negatively on the capital projects which are intended to improve and refurbish the bulk infrastructure of the entity "while we understand that due to the growth of the City, the demand of bulk water supply will increase, we are at advanced stage to commence with a redundancy project, which is technical in nature. In short, the intention is to develop an alternative power supply source within the plant, which will ensure that in the eventuality that there are electrical supply problems, we continue to operate with processing and distribution of bulk water to communities until the issue is resolved" Nthutang emphasized.

The acting COO said the role of Magalies Water remains that of bulk water services provider to municipalities within the area of operation. The bulk water supplied should consistently meet and exceed the SANS 241 water quality standard at the point of sale - where Magalies Water has put a bulk water meter. Once the water has passed the point of sale, potable water enters the reticulation network including the reservoirs, which are owned by the respective municipalities thus automatically becoming the responsibility of the water services authority (municipality) to ensure that the water adheres to the aforementioned water quality standards.

Mokoto said another project which will be commissioned soon, is the Pilanesburg Water Supply Scheme, which will augment the current water supply, from Mafenya to Tlhabane. The project will bring about an additional 70 mega-litres a day, to what Magalies Water is currently providing to Rustenburg in as far as bulk water supply is concerned. This is part of the entity's response to the water challenges plaguing the region, which are mainly due to expansion of the City and population growth.

# Human Resource Matters

## Bursaries

Magalies Water awards bursaries recognizing the need to respond to the Transformation Agenda by capacitating employees and to create opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds.



We would like to congratulate Buyiswa Beauty Bingwa who recently completed her Master in Business Leadership at the Graduate School of Business Leadership. She is currently the Acting GM: Corporate Services and her studies were funded through the Magalies Water Bursary Programme.

The Human Resources Department encourages employees to make use of the opportunities provided to them by Magalies Water to continuously improve themselves.

## Graduate Programme

Our graduate programme is designed to accelerate the development of graduates to ensure their readiness, skill and ability for future Magalies Water roles.

**A total of 5 graduates are taking part in the 2021/22 graduate programme.**

## Internships

Magalies Water continues to strive to make a significant difference in the lives of young people in the country through its various youth development programmes.

These include internships which are made available each year and young, unemployed and qualifying candidates are given the opportunity to apply and take part in the programme for a period of 24 months.

Below are list of interns who have successfully joined the Magalies Water. **A total of 22 interns are taking part in the 2021/22 internship programme.**

NAME AND SURNAME	GENDER	DEPARTMENT
Maphefo Kheetse	Female	Marketing and Communications
Precious Ikaneyng	Female	Human Resources
Katlego Portia Monaise	Female	Human Resources
Mokgadi Millicent Moroko	Female	ICT
Dineo Rankeng	Female	Internal Audit
Goitebetswe Tsholofelo Sekgwatle	Female	Records Management
Ngoetjana Mashilo Frans	Male	Strategy
Karabo Donald Letsatsi	Male	Finance
Lungile Jaca	Female	Fleet Management
Omogolo Moatshe	Female	Maintenance East
Berlinda Matlala	Female	Production East
Nkele Sebola	Female	Production East
Letlotlo Moraka	Female	Maintenance East
Maphoko Rosina Gafane	Female	Maintenance East
Khanya Sidzumo	Female	Production West
Neliswa Charmaine Ngcobo	Female	SHE
Phinda Prelude Rikhotso	Female	Production East
Patience Muriel	Female	Environmental Management
Gofamodimo Seletshego	Female	Supply chain
Kamvalethu Zitwana	Male	ICT
Lebogang Ranama	Female	Risk Management
Lesoka Nthobeng	Female	Research

NAME AND SURNAME	GENDER	DEPARTMENT
Zama Ntuli	Female	Water Quality
Johana Makhubela	Female	Chemistry
Mapula Ramatapa	Female	Microbiology
Kholofelo Phosiwa	Female	Microbiology
Moeketsi Nopatch	Male	Chemistry

# Human Resource Matters

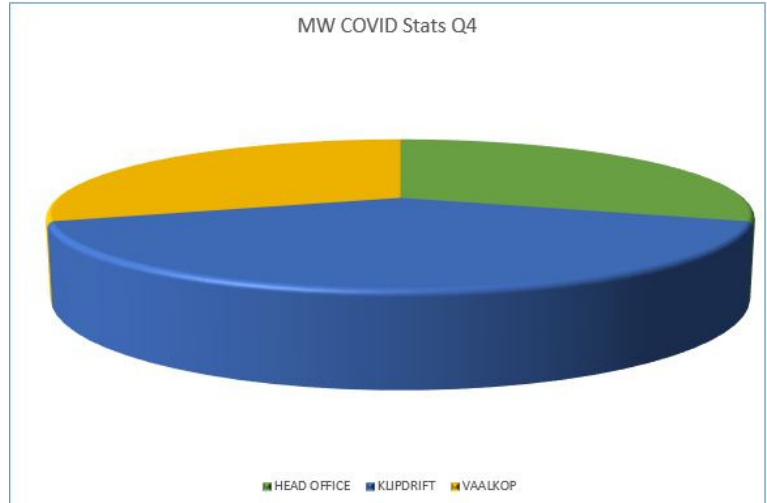
## Covid-19 in the Workplace

As the country continues to bear the brunt of COVID-19, for 15 months our lives have been constantly pivoting around and moving in and out of lockdowns, dealing with a new variant with each wave that comes with the destructive virus. It has had long-lasting implications on the way that we work and the way that we feel about work.

We have become accustomed to a culture of being, that is not in the nature of who we are as humans, something that has forced us into the faceless vacuums we have come to accept as 'virtual meetings'...however, there is an opportunity for organisations to recognise and acknowledge the impact that the pandemic has had on staff and continue to offer help and advice through occupational health services and other support structures.

Through ICAS, Magalies Water continues to offer support to employees on how to cope with stress and other work or personal related issues at no cost to the employee. Feel free to contact ICAS on 0800212393, their services are available 24 hours of the day.

## Covid-19 Statistics



## New Appointments



Mr. Sam Makhura: Procurement Manager - Head Office



Mr. Pule Lekone: Plant Manager - Cullinan



Ms. Lesedi Seketema: Assistant Process Controller - Vaalkop



Mr. David Magae: Media Specialist - Head Office

Magalies Water would like to welcome new employees who have recently joined the organisation. We wish them well in their endeavours.

## In Memoriam: MW Salutes its Fallen Heroes



Mr. William Sithole: Maintenance Manager - Klipdrift Plant



Mr. Herman Moerane : Stores Assistant - Vaalkop Plant



Mr. Clifford Matlala: Plant Manager - Cullinan



Mr. Vuyani Magqabi - Board Member

Magalies Water, pays homage to these fallen heroes, who have contributed immensely to the values, mission and important mandate of ensuring that within our area operation, the most fundamental and basic human right is met.

To the families, friends and associates we send our heartfelt condolences and trust that with the passing of time, the difficulty of dealing with grief

will bring you healing as you live on, while holding dear to the fond memories the great men created with you.



# vision

To Be The Leading Provider of Quality  
Water Services in South Africa

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