



Western Cape Umbrella Fire Protection Association, Newlands Forest, Union Avenue, Newlands, 7700, Tel: 021 689-7438/9, Fax: 021 685-5944

## WCUFPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013

**Time:** 08h30 – 16h00

**Venue:** GCFPA Office, Porterville

Representing	Organisation	Name	Abrev	Attend	Apologies	Contact Details
Chairman	CPFPA / SANP	Philip Prins	PP	✓		<a href="mailto:philip.prins@sanparks.org">philip.prins@sanparks.org</a>
Vice-Chairman	PFFA	Bridget Johnsen	BJ	✓		<a href="mailto:johnsen@iafrica.com">johnsen@iafrica.com</a>
Manager	WCUFPA	Peter Dorrington	PD	✓		<a href="mailto:peter@heidedal.com">peter@heidedal.com</a>
Member	GCFPA	Charl du Plessis	CdP	✓		<a href="mailto:charl@cederbergfpa.co.za">charl@cederbergfpa.co.za</a>
Treasurer	CPFPA	Pierre Gallagher	PGa	✓		<a href="mailto:cpfpamanager@sanparks.org">cpfpamanager@sanparks.org</a>
Member	SCFPA / DAFF	Paul Gerber	PGe		✓	<a href="mailto:paulge@daff.gov.za">paulge@daff.gov.za</a>
Member	Cape Pine	Braam Du Preez	BDP		✓	<a href="mailto:braam@capepine.co.za">braam@capepine.co.za</a>
Member	CapeNature	Tony Marshall	TM	✓		<a href="mailto:tmarshall@capenature.co.za">tmarshall@capenature.co.za</a>
Member co-opted	WOF WC	Shane Christian	SC	✓		<a href="mailto:shane.christian@wofire.co.za">shane.christian@wofire.co.za</a>
Observer	WOF National	Roelof Geysler	RG	✓		<a href="mailto:roelof@wofire.co.za">roelof@wofire.co.za</a>
Advisor	FFA	Johan Heine	JH		✓	<a href="mailto:johan@ffa.co.za">johan@ffa.co.za</a>
Member co-opted	PDMC	Etienne du Toit	EdT	✓		<a href="mailto:epdutoit@westerncape.gov.za">epdutoit@westerncape.gov.za</a>

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Member co-opted	FFA Aviation	Francois Weyers	<b>FW</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:fweyers@iafrica.com">fweyers@iafrica.com</a>
Member co-opted	FFA NPC	Tessa Oliver	<b>TO</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:coord@fynbosfire.org.za">coord@fynbosfire.org.za</a>
Member co-opted	DAFF	Mavila Manganyi	<b>MM</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:mavilam@daff.gov.za">mavilam@daff.gov.za</a>
Observer	PDMC	Annelize Lamprecht-Vertue	<b>ALV</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:annelize.lamprecht-vertue@westerncape.gov.za">annelize.lamprecht-vertue@westerncape.gov.za</a>
Observer	PFFPA	Scott Ristow	<b>SR</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:pfpa@telkomsa.net">pfpa@telkomsa.net</a>
Observer	GCFPA	Wimpie vd Merwe	<b>WM</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:wimpie@cederbergfpa.co.za">wimpie@cederbergfpa.co.za</a>
Observer	Fynbos Fire / Earthworks	David Waddilove	<b>DW</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:earthworks@icon.co.za">earthworks@icon.co.za</a>
Observer	Cape Pine	Greg Wilmans	<b>GW</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:greg@capepine.co.za">greg@capepine.co.za</a>
Observer	FFA NPC	Chandra Fick	<b>CF</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:chandra.fick@wofire.co.za">chandra.fick@wofire.co.za</a>
Observer	SCFPA	Charl Wade	<b>CW</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:scfpa.riversdale@gmail.com">scfpa.riversdale@gmail.com</a>
Observer	SCFPA	Tommy Eckley	<b>TE</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:tommy.scfpa@gmail.com">tommy.scfpa@gmail.com</a>
Observer	WCDM Fire	N. Scholtz	<b>NS</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:clanwilliamfire@gmail.com">clanwilliamfire@gmail.com</a>
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Observer	GTFPA	Leon Lourens	<b>LL</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:twkfpa@gmail.com">twkfpa@gmail.com</a>
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Observer	WoF Dispatch	Bianca van Biljon	<b>BvB</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:coord.wc@wofire.co.za">coord.wc@wofire.co.za</a>
Observer	FFA NPC	Val Charlton	<b>VC</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:val@wofire.co.za">val@wofire.co.za</a>
Observer	Fynbos Fire / CSAG / UCT	Rodger Duffett	<b>RD</b>	✓		<a href="mailto:rodger@csag.uct.ac.za">rodger@csag.uct.ac.za</a>
Observer	Fynbos Fire / Internet Africa	Christo le Roux		✓		<a href="mailto:christo@diel.co.za">christo@diel.co.za</a>
Observer	Fynbos Fire / Internet Africa	Hilton Franz		✓		<a href="mailto:hilton@diel.co.za">hilton@diel.co.za</a>

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<b>FORMAL MEETING</b>	
1.1 OPENING AND WELCOME PP opens meeting and welcomes everyone.	
1.2 APOLOGIES AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA Apologies noted as indicated above.	
1.3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes of previous meeting were accepted and approved. Minutes proposed by TO and seconded by CdD. It was noted that the previous meeting that was to be held at the Bontebok National Park was cancelled due to the labour unrest at the time.	
<b>AGENDA</b>	
2.1 DAFF FUNDING APPLICATION PD reported that a financial request was submitted to DAFF by the NVMAF. PD to send spreadsheet to WCUFPA Executive Committee.	<b>PD</b>
2.2 NEW FIRE ADVISOR INTRODUCTION TO FPA's IN REGION Mavila Manganyi (DAFF fire advisor) (MM) has taken over from Joel Syphus. Her responsibility lie in the Winelands DM, Overberg DM, City of Cape Town Metro and the West Coast DM. PGe works within the Southern Cape.	
2.3 DAFF FPA AUDITS AND FEEDBACK CdP mentioned that feedback from the DAFF audits is not forthcoming from Luke Radebe and that this should be addressed. WCUFPA needs to refine the audit and create a scoring system. PD to follow up with Luke and provide feedback.	<b>PD</b>
2.4 GCFPA AND CPFPA BOUNDARY APPLICATION BJ queried the FPA boundaries between PFFPA, CPFPA and the GCFPA. She requested that the original boundaries be kept as per the PFFPA's application to DAFF. PP reiterated a decision taken by the WCUFPA Exco which was also previously minuted that all FPA's would align their boundaries according to the DM's and the Metro. CdP, PGa and SR to discuss the issue on sight and report back to the Exco.	<b>CdP, PGa, SR</b>
2.5 CRITERIA, CONDITIONS AND APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION OF FIREBREAKS BJ queried the firebreak exemption system and that it does not encompass the ecology of the area and could impact heavily on biodiversity. BJ recommended that an independent consultant be employed by the WCUFPA to conduct the exemption applications. This was debated and CdP said that this was essentially the responsibility of all the FPA Managers. They had to negotiate and resolve these issues and that an independent consultant was not necessary.	
2.6 FPA PROGRESS REPORTING TEMPLATE Information management is an issue and PD discussed and recommended opening a Google drive directory to share relevant documents. PD to distribute a Non Disclosure Agreement to protect contributors to the information database. Only WCUFPA executive members have access to the drive.	

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<p>PD to initiate Google Drive and forward relevant documents.</p> <p>Exemption plans were discussed with reference to Google Drive. PD to send Winterhoek plan to BJ and PGa and add this document to Google Drive.</p>	<p><b>PD</b></p> <p><b>PD</b></p>
<p><b>2.7 NFDRS SAWS</b></p> <p>PP discussed the DAFF envisaged NFDRS and concern was raised that the proposed McArther FDR system was inferior to the Lowveld FDR system that was currently in use. FDI's were also no longer being generated and made available to the FPA's via the SAWS website. PP and PG had met with SAWS at the CT International Airport and initiated a FDI document for the WC through the SAWS commercial branch in Pretoria. SAWS developed the document and agreed to supply FDI's to the different FPA's at a fee per base station. As the GEF Fynbos Fire Project makes provision for weather forecasts from SAWS, TO will pay SAWS for the information on behalf of the WCUFPA till the end of the fire season. Detailed requests for FDI's must be requested from PP.</p>	
<p><b>2.8 FPA MEMBERSHIP TO WCUFPA</b></p> <p>PD introduces new member, Theewaters-Groenland FPA Manager Leon Lourens.</p> <p>PD said that Sondagskloof FPA was in the process of dissolving and their members were joining Haasvlakte FPA, Napier FPA and Hagekraal FPA respectfully.</p> <p>TO introduces David Waddilove as the successful candidate for the implementation of outcome 1.1 and 1.2 of the GEF Fynbos Fire Project.</p>	
<p><b>2.9 WCUFPA MOA WITH WOF PROGRESS</b></p> <p>PP indicated that there must be continuous employment of FPA managers with regards to WoF's financial contribution thereof even if there is a change in the implementation Agent of the WoF program. SC said that FFA had applied as the implementation agent for the next year but awaits the final decision. SC mentioned that WoF will more than likely employ the FPA managers and second them to the FPA's. PP said that this arrangement needs to be formalized. PP, PD and SC to follow up with WoF.</p> <p>LL requested a contribution to the Theewaters-Groenland FPA Manager's post. PP said that he needs to apply in writing to the WCUFPA Executive Committee Chairman.</p> <p>PD to work on and add the WoF MOA for ground and aerial operations to the information on Google drive.</p>	<p><b>PP, PD, SC</b></p> <p><b>LL</b></p> <p><b>PD</b></p>
<p><b>2.10 TOR – WCUFPA</b></p> <p>PD showed the NVFMAF (National UFPA) TOR. PD to distribute a copy to Executive Committee.</p>	<p><b>PD</b></p>
<p><b>2.11 NPC &amp; NPO – ADDITION TO AGENDA</b></p> <p>PP briefly reminded the Exco of the document supplied by Advocate Clarissa Molteno (Environmental Law Consultant) with the assistance of Ricardo Wyngaard (a lawyer who specialise in non-profit legal entities) with recommendations regarding the registration of NPO's vs NPC's with regards to the</p>	

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<p>NVFFA. PP had sent this document to Advocate George Nakwato and Luke Radebe from DAFF for their attention but to date had received no response.</p> <p>Willemien (JH's PA) had registered the WCUFPA as an NPC but unfortunately in the wrong name. She had registered it as the Western Cape Rural Fire Authority. PP and PG had requested that Willemien de-register this name or at least amend the name to the WCUFPA. RG and SC to follow-up urgently with Willemien.</p> <p>PP to send DW and MM the document from Clarissa Molteno. DW and MM to follow-up.</p>	<p><b>RG, SC</b></p> <p><b>DW, MM</b></p>
<p><b>WORKING ON FIRE</b></p>	
<p><b>3.1 GENERAL FEEDBACK</b></p> <p>SC introduced Rudolf Geyser (RG) as the National Manager of the WoF Ground Operations program based in Nelspruit.</p> <p>It was noted that the WoF Program tender process was still awaiting a decision and all partners would be notified once a final decision was made.</p>	
<p><b>3.2 WOF TEAMS BASE PARTNER CHALLENGES</b></p> <p>CdP mentioned and spoke on behalf of PGe regarding the base partnership agreement and more specifically regarding the financial implications for FPA's. CdP commented that partners such as SANParks and CapeNature could comfortably afford these teams but FPA's were placed under huge financial pressure. BJ added that farmers were reticent to have the added pressure. SC suggested that all concerned discuss these concerns at the base partner meeting. GW to be included in these discussions. SC to inform partners when the base partner meeting will be scheduled.</p>	<p><b>SC</b></p>
<p><b>3.3 WOF TEAMS FFA CHALLENGES</b></p> <p>SC informed the committee about the implementation of NOSA and that this process was non-negotiable. There would be a National audit conducted by Louis Buys and Anthony Madjolo from Head Office with the Southern Cape and Newlands having been completed. The implementation cost of NOSA is high for the FPA's and it was duly noted. SC said that WOF would assist in funding equipment if the need arose.</p> <p>The request for teams still needed to be vetted by the WCUFPA as was the case before. SC had received 22 requests. Most notable applicants being Southern Cape (X4), CPFPA (X1), CapeNature (X4), TGFFPA (X1), PFFPA (X1) and GCFPA (X1). BJ requested that the PFFPA be put on hold. Noted by SC. PDMC had requested 10 further teams as additional to support current team structure and placed in a central area. With teams costing WoF R1.8 million per team, WoF had budgeted for 4 new teams for the upcoming financial year with the WCUFPA to decide on placement taking risk into account.</p> <p>SC informed the Exco of the idea of a rapid response team consisting of a stick (X11) member team, one based in Tulbach and the other in Porterville. Also the possibility of a FireWise team was being considered. Chandra was asked to consult with Val with regards to this FireWise team.</p> <p>PP commented that sending a WoF Regional Manager when two or more teams were dispatched was a</p>	<p><b>CF</b></p>

<p>good idea. RM's purpose was to liaise with the IC and the crews – stated in WoF's SOP's. PP recommended that the RM's be supplied with more suitable vehicles e.g. Bakkie with skid unit as most of these areas required vehicles with off-road capabilities. SC to enquire and follow-up.</p> <p>PD suggested placing WoF SOP's on the Google Drive. RG to follow-up and send to PD.</p>	<p><b>SC</b></p> <p><b>RG, PD</b></p>
<p><b>3.4 NEW TEAMS AND CURRENT PLACEMENTS</b> Covered in 3.3</p>	
<p><b>3.5 BASE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT</b> Covered in 3.3</p>	
<p><b>3.6 SIGNBOARDS – ADDITION TO AGENDA</b> TM suggested that the signboards that are erected on SANRAL roads be standardised. CW to send the example used by the SCFPA together with the dimensions to the Exco. Exco to conduct an e-mail debate.</p>	<p><b>CW</b> <b>Exco</b></p>
<p><b>AERIAL RESOURCE DEPLOYMENT</b></p>	
<p><b>4.1 INITIAL ATTACK</b> EdT highlighted the golden hour where initial attack was vital. Initial attack is an international best practice. EdT reiterated PDMC's 1<sup>st</sup> hour free concept which was on offer from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Nov 2012 until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2013. This hour included 1X sortie (1X chopper, 2X bombers and 1X spotter. The only exception being TMNP where the sortie included 2X choppers and 1X spotter. To date 78 sorties have been dispatched.</p>	
<p><b>4.2 EXTENDED AND OTHER DEPLOYMENTS</b> PP questioned the issue of a private individual who have contracted the FFA for aerial support. Obviously they would be on a 2<sup>nd</sup> call basis but in the event the IC takes over, the IC will utilise the craft in such a way that may not be to the ultimate benefit of the said private landowner. Who then pays? FW to get back to PP.</p> <p>TM suggested that a GPS tracking tool be installed in all the aerial craft to accurately monitor the flight paths. This could well assist with accurate invoicing. FW to follow-up.</p>	<p><b>FW</b></p> <p><b>FW</b></p>
<p><b>4.3 FPA RESOURCES AND RUNWAY USE</b> 22 runways were activated for the bomber program. The main bases are in Porterville and Stilbaai. More than 80% of the runways have been used this season and to date the bomber program has been successful. It is proposed to extend the runway program further for the 2013/2014 fire season.</p>	
<p><b>4.4 HELITAC / WOF TEAM AND AERIAL RESOURCE INTEGRATION</b> PP questioned the thinking behind the fact that the Helitac teams be under the control of the pilots and not the IC. This will be dealt with at the Aerial Workgroup meeting.</p>	

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<b>WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS</b>	
5.1 TESSA OLIVER – GEF FYNBOS FIRE Reported back on the GEF Fynbos Fire. AFIS going ahead. CSIR in process of finalising their contract. Three FPA extension officers were in place. Communication equipment had been bought.	
5.2 RODGER DUFFETT – CSAG Presentation regarding weather stations	
5.3 DAVID WADDILOVE – EARTHWORKS Presentation regarding output 1.1 and 1.2 regarding FPA capacity building	
5.4 VAL CHARLTON – FYNBOS FIRE Presentation regarding communications and newspaper articles	
5.5 CHANDRA FICK – FIREWISE Presentation regarding FireWise	
5.6 STEPHEN DEVINE – FFA TRAINING Presentation regarding ICS	
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	
DATE OF NEXT MEETING To be decided. Venue possibly at Wilderness National Park.  PP thanks all for coming. PP thanks CdP for organising the catering and dinner and PD for the accommodation the evening before. PP thanked the GCFPA for hosting the meeting.	