

# RE BUA MMOGO



Official Newsletter for FBDM • Issue 25, September 2012

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Foreword by the Executive Mayor

1

From the Municipal Manager's Desk

2

FBDM receives prestigious SAG Award

3

2012/13 financial year budget

4

Millions without refuse service

6

Refuse service in Magareng given a boost

7

Environmental health by-law workshops

8

The important role of FPAs

9

Commemorative days and other events

10

National Headlines

12

## Message from the Executive Mayor

The beginning of this financial year has been filled with a lot of excitement and very fulfilling tasks.

These include events such as the joint events that the district municipality had with private and public institutions to celebrate Mandela Day and Women's Day.

Frances Baard District Municipality could also rub shoulders with the big wigs of the geographic information industry during the ESRI Conference where we won the prestigious SAG Award, which you can read about in this issue.

It is a new financial year and with it comes a series of changes and challenges. The central message for the new financial year is 'service delivery first' and will remain a norm.

Council has adopted the budget for the 2012/13 financial year and we are geared to give our local municipalities the necessary support to ensure that we improve service

delivery.

We are determined to work very hard to turn around the very unfortunate qualified audit report that we received from the Auditor-General for the 2010/11 financial year.

We have a balanced annual budget linked to the income and expenses so that we can monitor the organisation's performance on a monthly basis.

This enables us to take appropriate actions if the performance begins to deviate from the budget.

This is the time to reflect on the achievements of the past fiscal year and look towards the challenges of the next and as a municipality we take the 'service delivery first' message very seriously.



The Executive Mayor  
Ms Khadi Moloi



ESRI User Conference 2012 held in San Diego, California, USA where the FBDM received a special achievement award in GIS.

Read more on PAGE 3

# From the Municipal Manager's Desk

This edition of Re Bua Mmogo comes at the dawn of the new financial year, which commenced on 01 July; having prepared ourselves through a reviewed IDP and the adoption of the budget with an increase in funding for infrastructure projects for our local municipalities.

We are thus aptly responding to the call of the President Jacob Zuma in his State of the Nation Address earlier this year that all spheres of government should harness their resources for optimal socio-economic advancement through investment in infrastructure.

With more resources allocated to capital projects we look forward to complying with our fiduciary duty to remain primarily responsive and accountable to the district on the mandate bestowed on us as an institution.

Despite our limited resources, we have ensured that we adopt a budget that focuses on infrastructure and the operation and maintenance of existing infrastructure. This commitment is evident from our allocation to all our four local municipalities so that we can ensure that amongst others, there is an access road in Ganspan, a storm water channel in Mataleng, sanitation provision for households in Fraser Moleketi in Ritchie and the upgrade of water networks in Ikhutseng. These initiatives respond to the development needs of the communities and contribute significantly in building sustainable communities across all local municipalities.

We submitted our Annual Financial Statements (AFS) to the Auditor-General by 31 August 2012 as required by the law. We are looking forward to a desirable outcome to reclaim our position as ambassadors of clean-audit. This desire is based on our responsibility as a district municipality; thus having a legislative mandate to support and set an exemplary trend for local municipalities to aspire for. In line with the government Vision 2014, which is only a financial year away, we have strengthened our current financial and performance management support to all our local municipalities to ensure that the entire district achieve this goal.

We have seen the improvement in the timeous submission of the AFS by two of

our local municipalities but we need to work better together to ensure 100% compliance in the next financial year. We are seeing the steady improvement in internal controls and system through our shared services on internal audit and audit committee. We must build on the firm foundations that we have laid in the past financial year.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate the positive role that many of the colleagues play, across all levels of ranks, to ensure that we strive to execute our mandate in an effective, efficient and economical manner. Together we must strive to sustain and enhance the good work that we do as Team Frances Baard, whilst ameliorating and eliminating extant challenges as we start a new financial year.

Through hard work and strive for excellence, we have received the ESRI international award on GIS in July 2012. Through the GIS we are able to provide the entire district with information of its spatial assets. Needless to say that the World, many nations, have leap frogged into the knowledge economy based on the extent to which they have been able to leverage the advances in information technology.

As a district municipality with a fortunate location as the host of our capital city and the momentous recent announcement of Kimberly as the seat of one of the two Universities recently announced for establishment the opportunities for advancement of information technology are phenomenal when we stare into the vast expanse before us, namely the future.

It is with great appreciation that we know that you take time to read this and definitely have been enjoying the feedback that we receive through various mediums and platforms.

I thank you!



**Acting Municipal Manager  
Ms Mamikie Bogatsu**

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### **Council meetings:**

- 21 Nov 2012
- 12 Dec 2012

### **Tourism Association meetings for the 2012/2013 financial year:**

- 29/11/2012 - Phokwane
- 21/02/2013 - Magareng
- 23/05/2013 - Dikgatlong

### **LED Forum**

- 29 November 2012

# FBDM receives prestigious SAG Award



*The Frances Baard District Municipality (FBDM) received the prestigious SAG Award at the annual ESRI User Conference held on 23 - 27 July in San Diego, California, USA.*

Seen here are from left the Executive Mayor, Ms Khadi Moloji, with Mr Jack Dangermond, President of ESRI and Mr Mashudu Mudau, GIS Manager at the award ceremony on 26 July 2012.

In May 2012 the Frances Baard District Municipality was selected to receive a Special Achievement Award in GIS (SAG) at the 2012 ESRI International User Conference which was held in San Diego, California, USA. The Esri User Conference is one of the biggest software conferences worldwide with just over 14,000 delegates attending from all over the world.

This award is given to user sites around the world to recognize outstanding work with GIS technology. The FBDM stood out from more than 100,000 others.

The goal of the ESRI through the SAG Award is to showcase organisations and the important contributions of GIS to the global community. The SAG awards are a highlight at the weeklong conference, with the purpose being to recognize organizations that are making a difference through GIS technology.

The Executive Mayor, Ms Khadi Moloji, accompanied by the GIS Manager, Mr Mashudu Mudau, attended the conference and received the award on behalf of the district municipality. In addition to the SAG awards it gave the FBDM delegates the opportunity to assess the municipality's current GIS usage against what other similar organizations are doing.

The Frances Baard District Municipality established GIS in July 2003 with the assistance of Development Bank of Southern Africa. During this time the function was combined with IT and the focus was more on the information technology rather than GIS.

By 2008 the district municipality through a council resolution established the Department of Planning and Development, which came into operation on 01st July 2008 and subsequently GIS became a function on its own within this department.

With the appointment of the GIS Manager in 2009 the first phase to implement a Corporate GIS for the FBDM was rolled out. The strategic enterprise-wide elements of the GIS implementation at the FBDM were deemed to be critical to its sustainability and long term success.

This was a fundamental change in approach from the historical GIS implementation lifecycle at FBDM up until now.

Until 2009 GIS was just a desktop user orientated tool. However, since the introduction of a Corporate GIS which focusses on the integration of various businesses both internal and external, the perception about the function has changed dramatically.

Through the Corporate GIS a web portal which enables all various businesses to access GIS information on a 24-hour basis and a shared service with a centralised GIS geodatabase was created.

These tools enables the district municipality to host and update the GIS information for all the local municipalities in the area.

# The 2012/13 financial year budget

*The budget is prescribed by the Budget Regulations as published in Government Gazette of 17 April 2009. The budget must be realistic, credible and capable of being approved and implemented as tabled to Council. This implies that the envisaged expenditure may not exceed the probable revenues and expected cash flows must be sufficient to cover all council's financial responsibilities and service delivery targets.*

TOTAL BUDGET:	R 129,088,260
OPERATIONAL:	R 120,074,990
CAPITAL:	R 9,013,270

## The budget in brief:

### Revenue sources

Revenue sources and patterns are the same as the previous year with grant funding still contributing 95 % of the total revenue.

### Salaries & Allowances

Salaries and allowances are budgeted according to the approved organisational structure and prescriptive scales of remuneration, as well as other obligations imposed on the employer. These determine Council's manpower and benefits cost for the year.

Councillor remuneration is budgeted according to the remuneration of public office bearers act and is budgeted at full cost.

Post-service benefits increase due to increased numbers of beneficiaries and scale contributions to the relevant provident funds.

Increase in salaries & allowances are mainly due to provision for estimated salary increases of 6%.

The increases in employee related cost and general expenditure will have to be monitored carefully to ensure an acceptable level of service delivery in future.

### Grants & Subsidies

An amount of R22m has been allocated from surplus cash reserves for service delivery at the local municipalities while only R7,4m from revenue is available as compared to R17m in the previous year. This allocation comes under further pressure in the outer years when the need for the disaster management centre escalates up to R10m in the current financial year and R25m in 2014 and 2015 respectively.

Grant and subsidy projects took up a major part of Council's available funding for the past number of years. It is clear that the increase in revenue does not keep track of the needs of the municipality.

The sharp decrease in grant & subsidy projects in 2014 and 2015 is due to a sharp increase in capital expenditure for the mentioned years for the establishment of the disaster management centre.

### Finance Charges

The increase for finance charges is mainly due to the expected increase in cost relating to long term staff benefits and the repayment of the long term loan that was taken up to finance the new council chambers. The original loan amount was R15 m and is payable over 10 years. The last installment will be payable on 30 June 2019.

### Revenue & Expenditure by Municipal Vote

Planning and Development and Project Management and Advisory Services once again received the largest portion of the budget. The main purpose of these votes is support to local municipalities and includes services like infrastructure development and maintenance, GIS services and spatial planning services.

The following information indicates the estimate cost to local municipalities excluding direct infrastructure investments of R30,66m.

Service	Estimated Value of Service
Internal Audit	R 772 275
Finance management	R 1 340 000
Spatial Development	R 2 489 340
Performance Management	R 385 665
Compilation of IDP's	R 385 665
Engineering advisory services	R 1 317 590
Roads maintenance	R 854 650
<b>Total</b>	<b>R 7 545 185</b>

## Revenue & Expenditure by Standard Classification

The discontinuation of trading services emanates from the transfer of the district management area to the local municipalities. These have an impact on revenue for planning & development due to the loss of income from equitable share and the municipal infrastructure grant.

The subsidies from provincial government relating to the fire fighting equipment and NEAR grants by the provincial government has been cancelled as from 1 July 2012.

The largest portion of the budget is allocated to Planning & Development which includes the following functions:

- IDP / PMS
- Local Economic Development
- Spatial Planning
- Geographic Information Systems
- Project management & Advisory Services
- Maintenance of Roads

The main focus of these units is to assist local municipalities to increase the level of service delivery and the total allocation of 44,69% indicates that the bulk of the municipality's resources are aimed at better service delivery.

The annual budget in respect of the 2012/13 financial year has been prepared according to the approved IDP / Budget Process Plan and consists of the following six processes:

<b>Planning</b>	<b>Tabling</b>
Schedule key dates; establish consultation forums; review previous processes. The Executive Mayor has during August 2010 tabled a time schedule outlining key deadlines for reviewing the IDP, preparation, tabling and approval of the budget.	Table draft budget (90 days prior to new financial year), IDP & budget related policies; consult and consider formal responses from local, provincial and national stakeholders.
<b>Strategising</b>	<b>Approving</b>
Review IDP; set service delivery objectives (3 years); consider local, provincial and national issues; consider previous and current year performances; consider economic and demographic trends; review policies and consult on tariffs.	Council approves budget and related policies 30 days prior to new financial year
<b>Preparing</b>	<b>Finalising</b>
Prepare budget; revenue and expenditure projections; draft and amend policies; consider local, provincial and national priorities.	Publish approved Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) as well as annual performance agreements and key indicators.

## Proposed Tariffs

Council reviewed and amended its tariff policy in respect of the 2012/13 budget year and the following proposed tariffs were implemented with effect from 1 July 2011:

<b>Rental of Council Facilities</b>	
Lecture room	R 900 per day per room, excluding VAT
If both 1 & 2 utilised	R1,500 per day, excluding VAT
Projector required	R 300 per day, excluding Vat
A refundable breakage deposit of 20% of total rent amount.	
Photostat Fees	R0-75 per copy / Photostat
Clearance Certificates	R15-00 per clearance certificate application
<b>Tender Documents</b>	
Bids from R200,000 to R500,000	R100-00 non-refundable deposit (Under discretion of Municipal Manager)
Bids from R500,001 and more	R200-00 non-refundable deposit (Under discretion of Municipal Manager)
<b>Planning and Development</b>	
Application fee for rezoning	None
Rental of Plant & Machinery - Grader	R600.00 per hour, excluding VAT

# Millions without refuse service

*“As many as 45 percent of South African households, mainly living in informal settlements and rural areas, do not have access to domestic waste collection services. The National Waste Management Strategy sets a target of 69 000 new jobs by 2015 as part of efforts to address the large number of households without access to municipal waste services and to promote recycling.”*

This is according to the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Edna Molewa, who was speaking at a handover ceremony for a new R15m landfill site in Phokwane Municipality in the Northern Cape.

With the Executive Mayors of Frances Baard District Municipality, Khadi Moloji, and Phokwane Municipality, Vuyisile Khen attending, Molewa highlighted the role of labour-intensive methods and small businesses in the waste-management sector.

She said the department, through the Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programme, was funding various environmental projects in the Northern Cape using labour-intensive methods.

“Among some of the key requirements of the Expanded Public Works Programme is that we need to create jobs, develop small businesses and also ensure that skills development opportunities are created. During the construction phase of this site, about 288 people were employed mostly drawn from the local community,” she said.

The new landfill site will be operated by the municipality in full compliance with the Waste Act. Molewa said that this “landmark legislation seeks to address the problems we have had for decades over our waste. By instituting mechanisms of waste avoidance, minimisation, reuse, recycling, recovery, appropriate licensing, collection and storage requirements, as well as environmentally sound treatment and disposal of problematic waste streams, it will allow us to drive recycling as part of our green economy plan that aims to create jobs, with the municipalities expected to be central to effective management of waste.”

The Minister said the National Waste Management Strategy was an important part of establishing an integrated approach to waste management across government and broader society. It provides the basis for a government-wide action plan with defined targets on recycling, job creation and SMME development.

The targets for 2015 are to create 69 000 new jobs in the waste sector and to ensure that 2 600 additional small businesses and cooperatives participate in waste service delivery and recycling.

However, she said that without the support and commitment of the provinces and municipalities, we cannot achieve our objective of ensuring that our people’s right to a clean environment and air is attained and sustained.

Access to basic services, such as refuse removal, was also a responsibility for government as whole. “We also must make sure that poor people or households are not discriminated against due to their economic status. We are aware that some households just cannot afford the cost of waste services including refuse removal due to their poor economic situation,” she said.

She added that there was a provision for basic refuse removal services for indigent households, but that the provision of an adequate and sustainable waste service delivery system in South Africa has had many challenges. “There has been very little progress with regard to significant movement in this area and we believe that with the legislative framework and co-operation from various spheres of government we can deliver services to our people.”

The targets set by the National Waste Management Strategy were that by 2016 at least 95% of urban households and 75% of rural households should have access to adequate levels of waste collection services and 80% of waste disposal sites should have the proper permits.

After conducting a study on unlicensed landfill sites across the country, the department has identified a lack of technical skills in landfill site operation as contributing to poor management of the sites. The department has trained 325 landfill site operators from 164 municipalities across the country. Part of the long-term plan was to build fewer landfill sites and promote separation of waste at source and recycling.

*Source: Local Government Resource Centre eNewsletter*

# Refuse service in Magareng given a boost

“The management of domestic waste in South Africa currently faces many real challenges. In terms of the South African Constitution, 1996), waste management service delivery is a local government function. The current status of waste management in South Africa is therefore an indication of how well municipalities succeed in performing this function.”

- CSIR

On 07 September 2012 the Executive Mayor of the FBDM, Ms Khadi Moloi, handed over a refuse truck to the Magareng Local Municipality to assist them with effective waste management.

Previously the local municipality was collecting their refuse using a tractor and trailer which has had various and frequent breakdowns and therefore compromised the waste collection service. To complicate matters even further, the number of erven serviced by this tractor and trailer also increased.

The local municipality also needed to service the rural communities of Majeng with a more regular service and could not achieve this due to the unreliability of the current equipment. Magareng Municipality then requested an allocation for a refuse truck which was budgeted for by the FBDM in the 2011/12 financial year.

The district municipality administered the procurement processes, which included the research on specifications of the truck.

The truck has a capacity of about 16m<sup>3</sup>. It consists of a cabin on a chassis and a compactor purpose-built to fit on the chassis. The cabin and chassis is from Isuzu Trucks and the cabin was manufactured by a supplier in Johannesburg.



The Executive Mayor of the FBDM, Ms Khadi Moloi (second from left) handing over the keys of the truck to the Mayor Of Magareng. Ms Elizabeth Monapule. On their outsides are the Acting Municipal Manager, Ms Mamikie Bogatsu and Mr G Mathobela, the Acting Municipal Manager of Magareng Municipality.

The truck has a warranty of two years and an extended warranty of 3 years. The total cost of the truck was R1,600,000.

## Effective use of scarce resources

It is absolutely essential that municipalities plan ahead and review IDP priorities to indicate where their priorities have changed to ensure that all priorities are included when applications are due for submission to different funding agencies.

The IDP will help the municipality to focus on the most important needs of local communities taking into account the resources available at local level. Finding the most cost-effective ways of providing services will ensure that money is spent on the causes of problems in local areas.

# Environmental health by-law workshops

Environmental health is a critical and integral part of Primary Health Care (PHC), as it contributes to the promotion of wellness and prevention of disease, primarily by controlling environmental factors that negatively impact on health. Investments in the control of hazardous environmental factors, through environmental health, can lead to a reduction in the burden of disease.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 states that every person has the right to an environment that is not harmful to his or her health or well-being. The Frances Baard District Municipality (FBDM) having taken full cognisance of this engaged on a process to develop by-laws with the aim of protecting and promoting the health and well-being of all people in the municipal area.

The FBDM is rendering municipal health services in Dikgatlong and Magareng municipalities due to the absence of Environmental Health Practitioners (EHPs) in these municipalities.

In November 2011, FBDM appointed a service provider to develop the following draft by-laws for the district, namely;

- Municipal Health By-law,
- Air Quality Management By-law, and
- Noise Pollution Management By-law

These by-laws will provide a legal and administrative framework within which a municipality can develop and manage its municipal health obligations and provide the environmental inspectorate with a framework written with a clear conception of the local conditions.

## Public involvement

Consultative workshops were arranged on the 15th of March 2012 in Barkly West and Kimberley and on the 16th of March 2012 in Hartswater and Warrenton to which the public and local municipalities were invited to comment on the draft by-laws.

A workshop was also conducted on the 4th of July 2012 with councillors in Kimberley where the following was discussed:

- The role of councillors in the legislative process.
- An overview of the most important provisions of the by-laws.

The by-laws were adopted on the 25th of July 2012 by Council and will be published in the Provincial Gazette. Summaries of the above draft by-laws were compiled by the consultant. An advertisement was placed in the local newspaper to inform the public on the development of the by-laws and to invite them to the consultative workshops

held in the different local municipalities. Copies of the draft by-laws were placed at public libraries and clinics through-out the District as well on the web-site of the district municipality.

The by-laws provided for the involvement of the communities in developing norms, standards and guidelines best suited to a particular area or community.

Members of the community had the opportunity to make comments or objections in respect of the draft by-laws within the allowable timeframe. Individuals, organizations or stakeholders who wished to make verbal presentations on the draft by-laws were invited to do so at the workshops.

## Facts on disease and the environment

- Worldwide, 13 million deaths could be prevented every year by making our environment healthier.
- In children under the age of five, one third of all disease is caused by environmental factors such as unsafe water and air pollution.
- Every year, the lives of four million children under the age of five (mostly in developing countries) could be saved by preventing environmental risks such as unsafe water and air pollution.
- In developing countries, the main environmentally caused diseases are diarrhoeal disease, lower respiratory infections, unintentional injuries and malaria.
- Better environmental management could prevent 40% of deaths from malaria, 41% of deaths from lower respiratory infections and 94% of deaths from diarrhoeal disease; three of the world's biggest childhood killers.
- In the least developed countries, one third of deaths and disease is a direct result of environmental causes.
- Environmental factors influence 85 out of 102 categories of diseases and injuries listed in the World Health Report.

*Source: World Health Organization, 2008*

# The important role played by Fire Protection Associations

During the 2011/2012 financial year more fires were reported to the district municipality than in previous years. Most of these fires are humanly induced and sometimes also by lightning.

These fires have a huge impact on the environment and also contributed to losses such as: financial; working hours; livestock; grazing and sometimes people loose their lives.

Through this article we therefore hope to sensitize the public and especially landowners on the importance of having knowledge on fire safety and specifically veld fire safety.

We want to stress the importance of forming and being a member of a Fire Protection Association (FPA). The FPA enables landowners in an area to set up a response system to prevent and suppress fires on their land. According to the Veld and Forest Fires Act, 1998 the responsibilities are vested in landowners to ensure that proper fire prevention methods are executed on their land. This is the duty of all landowners including municipalities and other sector departments.

The district municipality is assisting FPA's in the district in the following ways:

- Facilitates the establishment of FPA's with the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. District municipalities are required to sign off the applications forms (Form 1) to acknowledge the intent of the establishment of the FPA in its area of jurisdiction;
- The district municipality equipped the FPA's with fire equipment such as veld fire fighting units and knapsacks and inspects the equipment on a qauterly basis. The equipment is also maintained by the district municipality

## Duties of FPA's

- Develop and apply a veldfire management strategy for its area;
- Provide in the strategy for agreed mechanisms for the co-ordination of actions with adjoining fire protection associations in the event of a fire crossing boundaries;
- Make rules which bind its members;
- Identify the ecological conditions that affect the fire danger;
- Regularly communicate the fire danger rating referred to in sections 9 and 10 to its members;
- Organise and train its members in firefighting, management and prevention;
- Provide management services, training and support for communities in their efforts to manage and control veldfires;

## Advantages of FPA's

- No presumption of negligence in civil claims for damage where a fire from the member's land causes damage or loss to another person (section 34(1)(b) of the Act).
- The benefits of co-operation in preventing and combating veldfires through the institution of the FPA, within the framework of an agreed veldfire management strategy.
- The cost saving that comes from avoiding duplication with for example disaster management plans and agricultural conservation programmes.
- Advice and assistance to members in meeting the statutory requirements for readiness for fire fighting, including skills development.
- Improved communication among members e.g. of fire hazard conditions.
- Possible relief from certain prevention measures, such as preparation of firebreaks, depending on the contents of the Association's veldfire management strategy.
- The overall benefits of progressive building of capacity within the Association and thus among its members, with overall reduction in the risks of veldfires.

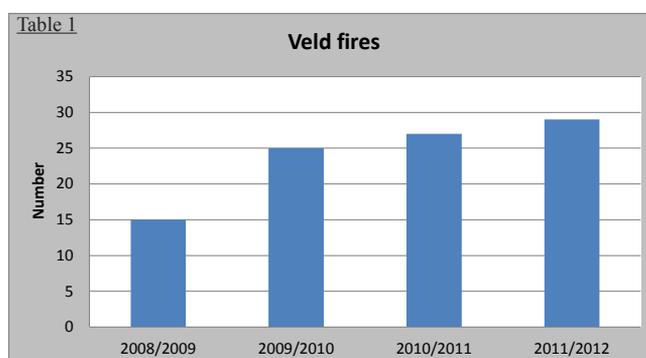


Table 1 indicates how veld fires increased over a 4-year period.

# Commemorative days and other events

The Executive Mayor joined forces with several organisations during the first quarter of the financial year to help alleviate the everyday life of the needy and disadvantaged.



## Hand over of blankets to Thusong Children's Centre

On 28 June 2012 the Executive Mayor joined Nedbank and handed over 150 blankets to the Thusong Children's Centre.

The hand over was an initiative by Nedbank and formed part of their 2012 National Winter Campaign in the Northern Cape.

The Thusong Children's Centre is a registered NGO which offers a home to abandoned, neglected and orphaned boys and girls. The Centre receives financial support from government to support and sustain the needs of its residents.



## Mandela Day Celebrations

On 18 July 2012 the Executive Mayor, Ms Khadi Moloi, accompanied by members of the mayoral committee spent their 67-minutes of selfless service with communities in the Magareng and Phokwane municipal areas.

The district municipality erected a "shanty" for an elderly gentleman in Pampierstad who was living in ghastly conditions in a mud structure.

The temporary structure was erected to enable the old man to have some sort of comfort in the interim, whilst awaiting the construction of his house in the near future.

Ms Moloi and her entourage also visited an old age home and handed out blankets to the elderly in Pampierstad. Enroute to Pampierstad they participated in events in Warrenton hosted by the Mayor of Magareng Municipality and an event hosted by De Beers Consolidated Mines respectively.



### Women's Day Event

On 05 August 2012 the Executive Mayor was invited to be the keynote speaker at a Women's Day event arranged by the company AnfieldMedia and the Hotel Court Classique in Pretoria.

The focus of the event was on Frances Baard and her legacy and how women can empower themselves by taking lessons out of Ma Baard's life.

Ladies from the Department of Tourism, Little Tubbies Pre- & Primary School, Tshwane Place of Safety Association and a few corporate ladies were in attendance.



### Hand over of the Barkley West Waste Recycling Plant

The waste buy-back centre in Barkley West has been completed and handed over to Dikgatlong Local Municipality on 20 August 2012.

Dikgatlong Local Municipality and the FBDM have agreed to implement a waste recycling project in Barkley West as one of the waste minimisation strategies of the Integrated Waste Management Plan of the District.

The project was initiated to minimize the amount of waste being disposed on the landfill sites and to extend the lifespan

of these sites. Dikgatlong Local Municipality contributed land and the FBDM erected a steel structure, which was refurbished to accommodate the buy-back centre. The Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC) was approached for financial assistance to complete the buy-back centre. A local recycling partner, Re-Mmogo Recycling and Cleaning Cooperative, will manage the buy-back centre. The cooperative includes 2 females and 3 males of which 1 is a person living with disability.

The cooperative will collect recyclables from local businesses and the public and waste collectors will be able to sell their recyclables for cash at the centre. The cooperative will then sell the baled recyclables at market related prices to recycling companies.

## NATIONAL HEADLINES

### SKA site bid announcement

On 25 May 2012 the Members of the SKA Organisation announced that the SKA telescope would be split between Africa and Australia, with all of the Phase 2 dishes destined to be built in Africa. Australia will host the Phase 2 aperture array antennas

**How important is the SKA site bid outcome for South Africa? What does it mean for the country?**

This is a very significant moment for South Africa, and Africa as a whole. It is also an important milestone in the international SKA project - the overall winner here is global science. For South Africa and our African partner countries this represents a new era, where Africa is seen as a science destination and takes its place as an equal peer in global science.

**What are your plans for the SKA site in South Africa? What will it include?**

Currently the South African SKA site is being developed for the MeerKAT precursor telescope. The infrastructure

that is already developed, and will be developed over the next few years, will be used for both the MeerKAT and SKA Phase 1. This infrastructure includes electric power from the national grid, data connections to major academic networks, and buildings to support the construction and operation of MeerKAT and the SKA.

**What kind of impact will the SKA have on the development of science and technology in Africa?**

The SKA has already had an impact through the MeerKAT project and the human capital development project that is managed by the SKA South Africa project office. The MeerKAT has provided African academia and industry with challenges that have improved their competitiveness, and the human capital programme has increased the numbers of students taking degrees up to the PhD level in physics, mathematics and engineering. Being much larger, the SKA will take this to the next level.

SKA Phase 1 (about 10% of the total SKA)	
South Africa	Australia
South Africa's precursor array - the 64-dish MeerKAT telescope - will be integrated into Phase 1. An additional 190 mid-frequency dish-shaped antennas, each about 15 m high will be built.	Australia's 36-dish SKA Pathfinder (ASKAP) will be integrated into Phase 1. An additional 60 mid-frequency dish-shaped antennas, each about 15 m high, will be built, as well as a large number of small, low-frequency antennas - each about 1,5 m high.
SKA Phase 2	
South Africa & African partners	Australia
Telescope will extend to long baselines of 3 000 km or more	Telescope extends over a baseline of 200 km, or possibly longer
A total of about three thousand mid-frequency dishes, with the highest concentration in the Northern Cape, South Africa, but some dishes in Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique, Kenya, Ghana, Madagascar and Mauritius. In addition, a large number of flat mid-frequency antennas, each about 60 m in diameter (number to be determined).	Up to 10 times more of the low-frequency antennas - each about 1,5 m high.

Source: Website - SKA South Africa

### Editorial Note

In this issue we focused on the very serious issue of waste management. Waste that is not properly managed can create serious health or social problems in a community and that is why the district municipality through its different divisions strongly supports the local municipalities in improving the current services provided.

As local government's main responsibilities in managing community waste is to arrange for waste to be collected regularly from households, store waste, recycle, or dispose of waste properly it stands to reason that we took a very serious interest to ensure that we support our local municipalities with their responsibility towards managing community waste.

It is hoped that by the sharing of information through these articles the community can also help to manage waste and assist the municipalities in successfully dealing with this task.

We can also not over-emphasise the value that can be added through the fire protection associations. With the number of veld fires having increased over the past number of years it stands to reason that our landowners should take heed of this very important function as it could save many lives, equipment and livestock.

Your opinion is important to us and we want to encourage our readers to give us feedback on the content of the publication.

*Gerline Roman*  
Editor



#### CONTACT DETAILS

**Frances Baard District Municipality**  
51 Drakensberg Avenue, Carters Glen  
Private Bag X6088  
KIMBERLEY, 8300/1  
Tel.: 053 - 838 0911  
Fax: 053 - 861 1538  
E-mail: [gerline.roman@fbdm.co.za](mailto:gerline.roman@fbdm.co.za)