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Message from the Executive Mayor

This newsletter comes three months after the Local Government Elections which took place on the 1st March 2006. Our people's participation in those elections was premised on the legitimate expectation that it would help hasten the dawn of a new age. An age characterised by:

- the end of the use of the abominable bucket system as a means of sanitation
- access to clean water, decent sanitation, and electricity
- the existence of economic and social infrastructure which is of a quantity and condition that guarantees sustainable economic development and social provisioning.

Together with our people, we understood that critical to the realisation of these objectives, is a plan to make

our municipal system of government work better.

During the first three months since the inception of the new Council, Councillors had to go through various workshops and training to familiarise themselves with the functions of the District and to understand the operations.

We look forward to a productive term of office and we say thank you to all our constituents for the faith they have shown in us. Together we will work towards the continued strengthening of a strong and productive team in order to uplift our people in this Age of Hope.



The Executive Mayor, Mr Achmat Florence



People browse through the exhibitions on display at the LED Summit. Read more on **PAGE 9**

FBDM ANNUAL BUDGET 2006-2007

Revenue	R 82,861,012
Operating Expenditure	R 77,559,660
Capital Expenditure	R 5,098,500
Surplus	R 202,852

The 2006/07 financial year budget was approved by Council on 23 May 2006. Following the tabling of the draft budget to Council in February 2006 and in compliance with section 23 of the MFMA, consultation processes and meetings were held with identified stakeholders on the contents of the budget as well as measurable performance indicators.

BUDGET SPEECH

In his budget speech the Executive Mayor, Mr Achmat Florence said that the preceding Council left us with a solid foundation which has been built over the past five years.

He went on to say that in order to ensure a smooth transition of responsibility and planning from one Council to the other, planning for the future cannot be done without considering the past, and more so - failing to plan means planning to fail.

SUPPORT TO LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

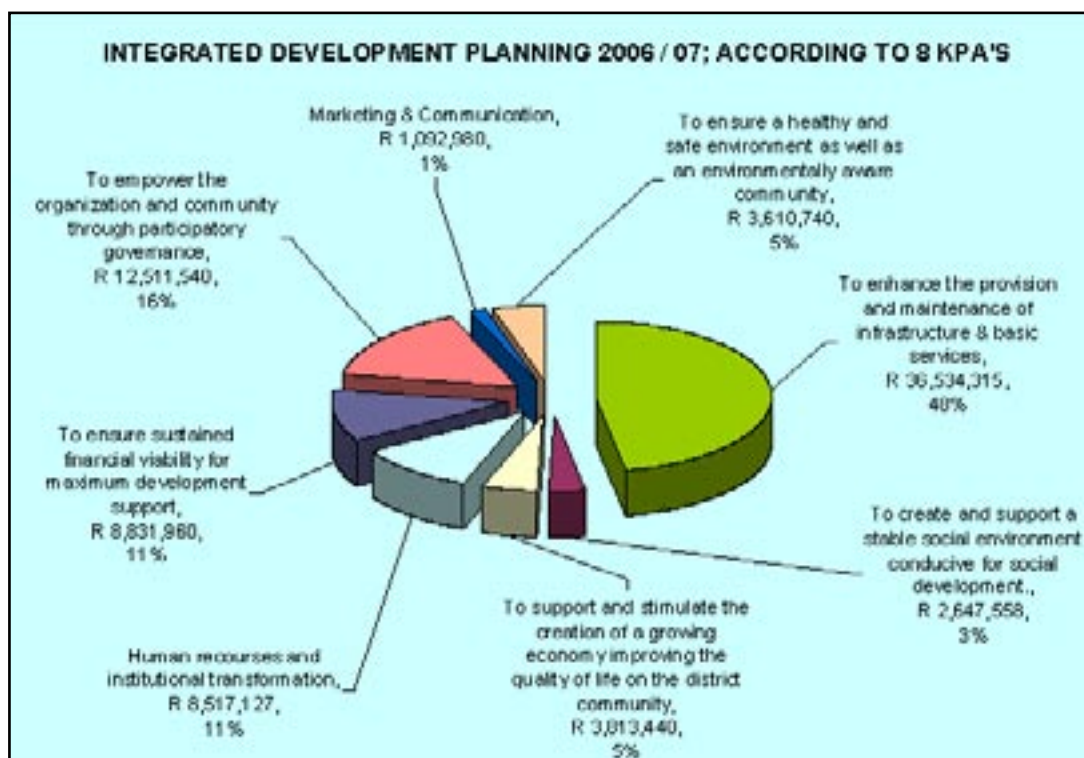
Most of the delivery efforts over the past years have been focussed on assisting category B-municipalities in terms of infrastructure for the provision of free basic services.

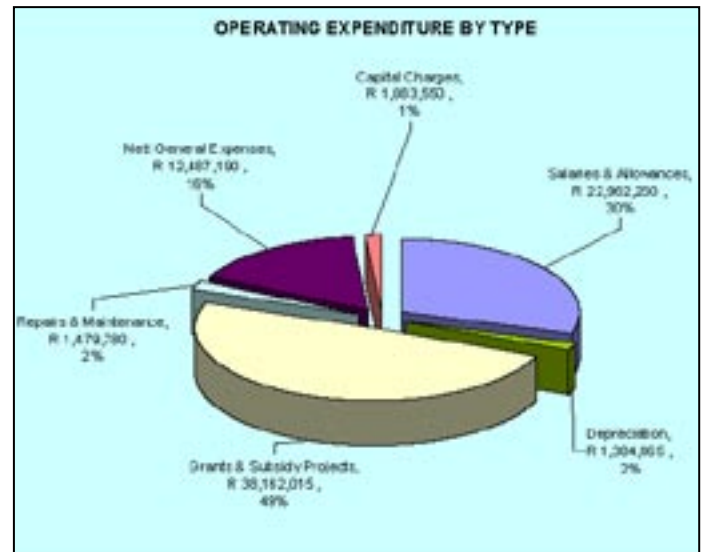
In addition smaller municipalities were assisted with administrative and financial reforms and a functional

shared audit service for the district now exist. Effort has also been put into institutional and administrative reforms, developmental issues (HIV/Aids and Social responsibility), governance and financial reforms.

The district municipality have since the year 2000 spent in:

- Dikgatlong, R18 904 204.00 on infrastructure projects by upgrading their water supply system, making the community safer by installing high-mast lighting, developing erven for housing settlement, storm water and roads upgrading and provision of bulk water supply
- Magareng, R10 817 882.00 to assist with electricity reticulation, area





lighting, purchasing of a backactor and assisting with sanitation

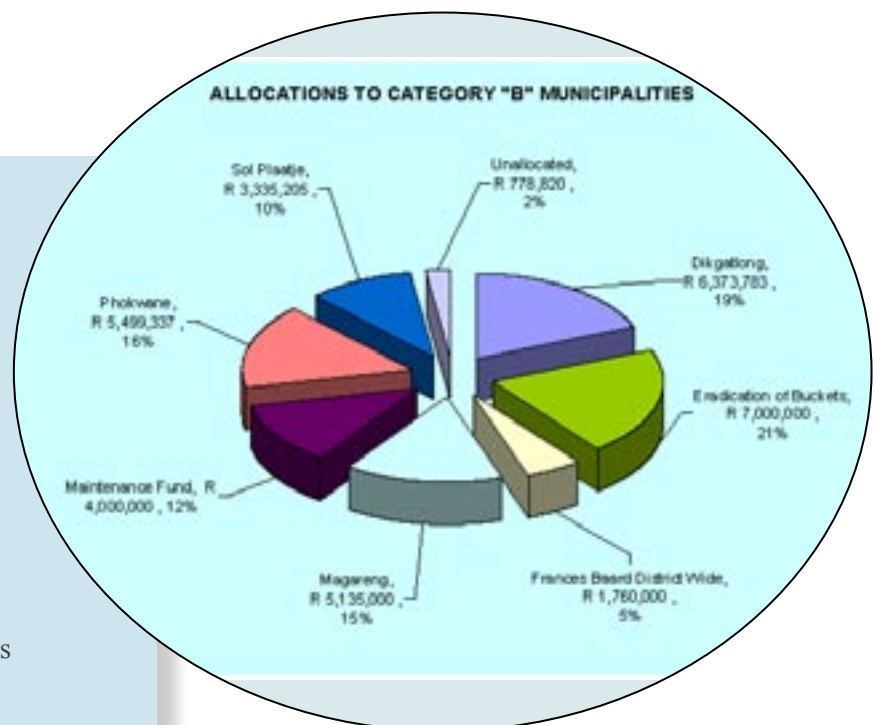
- Phokwane, R11 754 826.00 for upgrading their sewerage network, creating taxi facilities, water and sanitation to 604 erven, upgrading of roads, town planning in Valspan, Ganspan and Pampierstad as well as upgrading of their electricity substation

- Sol Plaatje, R13 813 432.00 by contributing towards the tourism information centre, the access road to the Legislature, upgrading of their storm water networks, community lighting in Galeshewe, the purchase of a fire-fighting truck, bulk sewerage outfall for the new prison under construction and formalising the residential area of Lindane.

- District Management Area (DMA), R2 170 000.00 to assist with water and sanitation for farm workers, electricity provisioning and upgrading of houses in Koopmansfontein. □

DISTRICT-WIDE PRIORITY ISSUES

- Provision of water, sanitation, electricity and housing
- Stimulation of Local Economic Development (LED)
- Identification and provision of Land
- Roads and public transport
- HIV / AIDS
- Education facilities
- Health and clinic services
- Cemeteries
- Tourism development / poverty alleviations
- Safety and security
- Sports, recreation, arts & culture
- Social development and welfare services
- Waste management and environmental quality
- More emphasis on maintenance of infrastructure



INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) ENGAGEMENT PROCESS 2006 AND BEYOND

An analysis of the IDPs in 2002, conducted by the Department of Provincial and Local Government (DPLG), found that municipalities are faced with numerous challenges.

The analysis highlighted that many municipalities were:

- Still struggling in designing credible IDPs,
- Over relying on consultants to draft their IDPs, and
- Struggling to implement budget driven IDPs.

These various challenges are a result of a central challenge which could be clustered into **lack of capacity and skills** in the area of **intergovernmental planning and management**.

It is on the basis, of the lack of capacity and skills and poor intergovernmental planning and management, that Cabinet Lekgotla of July 2005 highlighted the **improvement of the credibility** of IDPs as one of the critical area for intergovernmental planning and effective municipal management.

PCC resolutions

This was also reiterated by the Presidential Coordinating Committee (PCC), in November 2005, that credible and strategic IDPs are to be fully supported and resourced locally and provincially will realistic expenditure projections.

In implementing the resolutions of the PCC, the dplg together with the Office of the Premier (OTP) and the Department of Housing and Local Government (DHLG) came up with a 6-phased national approach to assist municipalities in adopting credible and strategic IDPs.

The DPLG is actively supporting each province, in the IDP engagement process 2006, by deploying senior management teams to facilitate the process.

6-phased IDP engagement process

The six-phased national approach in improving the credibility of IDPs started in the last quarter of 2005.

Phase 1: Signing-off of draft IDPs by the Premier.

This phase entailed the monitoring and collection of draft IDPs for sign-off by the Premier. In the Frances Baard District, all municipalities completed their draft IDPs before the end of February 2006. The reviewed IDPs were provisionally adopted by the outgoing Councils before the Local Government election which were held on the 01st March 2006.

Phase 2: Analysis of draft IDPs by national and provincial sector representatives.

During the first week of April 2006 Sector Departments' representatives met in Magaliesberg to analyze IDPs as per the credibility framework guide. The purpose of the IDP analysis was to;

- To develop IDP template and proposals for each of the draft IDP analysed,
- Position sector departments to get understanding of key IDP components, and
- Establish short and long term sec-

tor commitments and inputs into the IDPs.

The analysis singled out the following, in the FBDM, as best practice;

- Comprehensive indigent policies which are linked to implementation strategies.
- Improving capacity in budgeting and management skills
- Improvement in public participation strategy
- Best procurement policy

Phase 3: Hands-on support for municipal IDPs

This phase entailed discussions between municipal representatives within the district and officials of provincial and national departments. The IDP engagement process for the Northern Cape was held in Upington on the 08-12 May 2006. During this process, the IDP template and firm proposals developed during the analysis phase are shared with municipalities.

National and provincial representatives engaged municipalities on the IDP credibility framework guide. The guide focuses on the following; IDP focus areas, delivery focus areas, performance definition and national targets (where applicable).

This phase is envisaged to yield the following outputs;

- Clarity on forms of assistance to be provided by sector departments,
- Municipalities that need assistance with IDP, and

From page 4...

- Clear plans on IDP development.

Phase 4: Direct support

The fourth phase of the IDP engagement process 2006 entails providing direct support to municipalities that were identified and are in need of such assistance. The DPLG, OTP and DHLG will deploy officials to municipalities to assist in ensuring that credible and strategic IDPs are fully supported and resourced locally and provincially with realistic expenditure projections.

Phase 5 and 6: Monitoring and draft 2007/2008 IDPs

Phase 5 and 6 will take place at the end of September 2006 and beginning of March 2007 respectively. At the end of the first quarter of the financial year, the OTP and DHLG supported by dplg will facilitate short working sessions and the focus will be on the implementation of the IDP and IGR Framework Act.

It is during this budget adjustment window that sector departments can adjust their budgets so as to increase their support to municipalities.

In last phase, provincial groups supported by dplg would meet to review the draft IDPs of 2006/2007 and track the implementation of the IDPs.

In conclusion, alignment between sector departments and municipalities within our district has been a difficult exercise for the past five years. Hopefully, the efforts of dplg, DHLG and OTP of “practicalising” intergovernmental planning and management will assist in overcoming the alignment challenge. In addition, this will help local, provincial and national government to strike a structured and systematic dialogue to bring about practical coordinated and integrated actions among spheres of government and other organs of state to achieve common objectives and maximize development impact. □

From the Municipal Manager's Desk

“If you do things well, do them better.

Be daring, be first, be different, be just.”

This quote from Anita Roddick is what inspired us to reach the conclusion of this financial year on a high note. Indeed only those who dare succeed.

The municipal elections have come and gone. We are excited to welcome the new Council on board. As a collective, they have to play a critical and central role in bringing about qualitative change and a better life for all our people in this Age of Hope.

This is all about creating a truly democratic, accountable and transparent local government. Fortunately, the foundation for this is already in place as we face the next challenge of accelerated service delivery.

The second term of local government has its own unique challenges. We need to consolidate on our successes and refine the lessons learned.

The central question is what needs to be done in the next term of local government (2006 – 2010)? Two main problems that underline the performance of municipalities is poor capacity and inadequate accountability mechanisms.

The next term of local government must result in a more sustainable system, with reliable service delivery and a general improvement in government performance as a whole.

Five Key Performance areas have been identified as requirement for an ideal municipality viz. Municipal Transformation and Institutional Development, Local Economic Development, Basic Service Delivery and Infrastructure Investment, Financial Viability and Financial Management and Good Governance and Community Participation.

These are indeed ingredients for a viable municipality and only those who dare will succeed. □



**Municipal Manager,
Mr Thabo Nosi**

A knowledge sharing initiative

EASTERN CAPE VISITS NORTHERN CAPE



Participants with Kobus Streuders (right), a presenter on the first day, who also represents the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry on the O&M Steering Committee.



IN MARCH, REPRESENTATIVES OF EASTERN Cape municipalities and government departments spent two days meeting with representatives of the Northern Cape O&M Project, and of DWAF national in Kimberley.

This learning journey was part of a Water Institute SA (WIN-SA) knowledge sharing programme that facilitates inter-organizational learning in the water sector. The aim was to learn about and from the project, and discuss O&M issues related to water supply, sanitation and roads & storm water services.

Participants from the Eastern Cape were given an overview of the O&M Project from concept to implementation, how it is funded, the different components and current activities. During the deliberations the Eastern Cape also shared their O&M situation and issues in presentations by officials from three district municipalities, (Amatole, Chris Hani, and Alfred Nzo), DWAF Eastern Cape, and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Traditional Affairs (DHLG&TA).

Much discussion focused on the role of O&M support units, and it was agreed that they should assist municipalities to identify O&M needs; draft schedules using the O&M Handbooks, develop their infrastructure, human resources and management capacity. Other possible functions are:

- Institutional development
- Customer care
- Revenue generation
- Business management

The Eastern Cape team, clearly impressed by the Northern Cape project, decided to explore the possibility of a similar project, and to take back practical ideas for replication in their province, including:

- Testing the Sanitation Handbook

- in Amatole District Municipality
- Adopting the supervisor/operator training approach in the three districts
- Establishing a provincial O&M Management Unit at DHLG&TA
- Revisiting working group agendas and institutional arrangements
- Exploring and ensuring municipal data gathering by DHLG&TA
- Evaluating after six months to compare experiences

Participant impressions of the learning journey

- ☺ It brings a whole new perspective to learning when one meets people. Participation is better than just reading about a project.

- ☺ We met resourceful people and gained concrete ideas that we can use in our environment.
- ☺ Eastern Cape has structures and processes in place. Do not replicate but adjust and improve current ways of doing things.
- ☺ The design of workshop was good and good quality dialogue took place.
- ☺ Northern Cape also learned from the Eastern Cape.
- ☺ The workshop took place at the right time, now that we have new councillors in place.
- ☺ Team composition was good.

The overall purpose of the visit was summed up by one participant, Cindy, from the Eastern Cape:

It is not a matter of copying, but being INSPIRED to act!

Follow-up visit: Northern Cape to Eastern Cape

A team from the Northern Cape visited the Eastern Cape on the 11th April 2006 as a follow up to the Learning Journey that took place in March. For fear of filling up all the pages of this *Re Bua Mmogo* edition with WIN-SA Learning Journeys, the reader is encouraged to get hold of the September edition of the O&M News for more details on this follow-up visit, or alternatively to visit the WIN-SA website on www.win-sa.org.za.

WIN – SA Objectives

- To set in motion an incremental process to improve access to and use of information and knowledge
- To ensure that users have access to appropriate information, so that the water services sector can improve its performance
- To strengthen the culture of learning and sharing amongst sector stakeholders
- To strengthen and support provincial water services resource centres and maximize returns on the existing investment in information and knowledge initiatives



After the formal information session and presentations on the first day, the participants were also afforded the opportunity to meet and network with more members of the Steering Committee such as Ms Moira Marais-Martin, former Executive Mayor of Frances Baard DM, and Corr van Rooyen, DBSA Development Fund, amongst others.

STIMULATING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The district municipality has a constitutional responsibility to foster local economic development, and has initiated processes that will lead to strategies and plans to stimulate the local economy.

A project identification and prioritisation work session in the form of an Indaba was held on 9 May 2006 in Kimberley. Opportunities were verified and additional programmes and projects recorded with specific attention given to the local community needs and development issues.

Frances Baard District Municipality (FBDM) has an economic history based upon diamond mining and low intensity agriculture. Both these staples are subject to structural change.

Traditional industrial scale diamond mining is in terminal decline, and the nature of agriculture is changing in

ways that make it less dependent on labour and an unreliable source of future employment.

The area is without traditional manufacturing industries, and low levels of education and lack of skills together with relative long distances to markets make it relatively unattractive to those productive sectors of the domestic economy that are currently in ascendancy.

A one-day workshop was arranged by the LED Manager, Phetole Sithole, and the major stakeholders of the district economy and various potential investors were invited.

FOCUS OF THE INDABA

- To obtain sectoral perceptions
- To identify and verify economic opportunities and projects
- To undertake resolutions to be addressed in the economic development plan
- To incorporate, involve and commit key stakeholders and communities to the economic development of the area.

GROUP SESSIONS

Group sessions were also held, where the attendees of the workshop were categorised and formed into workgroups according to their specific sectors (e.g. an agriculture

workgroup, manufacturing workgroup etc.). This was done to allow for detailed discussions on the respective sectors, in order to obtain information on potential projects, developments and concerns in the specific sectors.

The feedback in these discussions is of utmost importance and will be further analysed by Urban-Econ, in order to identify various thrusts/strategies of potential development for the Frances Baard District.

THE AIM OF THE WORKSHOP.

Was to inform the people (stakeholders and community) in the Frances Baard area of growth potentials and projects. The purpose of the Indaba was also to get inputs from the community, stakeholders (LED Officials, Private businesses, Developmental Agencies within the district and councillors) with the finalization of the Consolidated LED Strategy of the District that emanated from the developed LED Strategies from the B-Municipalities with the inclusion of the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy.

Inform them about the consolidated LED strategy that is taking place in the area and to introduce the project. This Consolidated LED strategy will add value to the Frances Baard

area, but it is important that the role-players and the community give inputs into this LED development process.



One of the exhibitions at the Summit Koopmansfontein Arts & Craft Centre display of beadwork jewellery

WAY FORWARD

The main issues that need to be addressed as part of the District wide LED Strategy include amongst others the following:

- Frances Baard needs to capitalise on its competitive and comparative advantages, these need to be more fully understood and exploited for the future development in the area.
- An integrated strategy needs to be developed that addresses issues identified by each local municipality, this needs to result in implementable projects.
- A poverty gap is increasingly being developed in the area. The LED strategy needs to address this gap as a priority.
- The Mining sector is in the process of a long-term decline and is currently concentrated in the production of ores, stones and minerals, with very little beneficiation taking place, this limits the benefits which could accrue to the district economy and needs to be addressed.
- The tourism market is growing, however it has not been properly tapped and this market needs to be capitalised on.
- SMME and the broadening of the economy needs to include the PDI development needs to form the backbone of any opportunities identified and also capitalised upon.
- Building on the capacity of local municipalities through skills transfer of Council's officials so that identified programmes and projects can be effectively implemented, managed and facilitated.

ON THE TOURISM LANDSCAPE - INDABA INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPO

Indaba is the largest tourism marketing event on the African calendar and one of the top three “must visit” events of its kind on the global calendar.

Every year in May tourism product owners and interested parties flock to Durban’s International Convention Centre. This year the Expo took place from 06 - 09 May 2006. It showcases the widest variety of Southern Africa’s best tourism products and attracts international visitors and media from across the world.

The Frances Baard District Municipality’s tourism division had a stand at the show and sponsored two SMME’s from the district.

They were the Pampierstad Craft Project who manufactures wood products e.g. wine racks, ice buckets, coffee tables, baskets and many more. As well as Artz Memos in Kimberley who manufactures hand-made wooden lamps, gift packs for the office, candles, copper desk card holder, name tags, fridge magnets, etc.

The FBDM tourism display drew a lot of interest from both local as well as international tourists as both SMME’s sold a number of their products.



“ TAKE A GIRL CHILD TO WORK ”



Pictured above: The Speaker of Frances Baard District Municipality, Ms Maria Chwarisang (right back) and Ms Nomama Kgantsi, Director Administration. Seated in front is Desiree van Staden, Adamantia Secondary and Kelebogile Mocumi, Tshireleco Secondary, two of the girls who joined them at work for the day.

25 May 2006 saw the “Take a girl child to work” programme in full force again this year. This joint initiative between the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature and other Government Departments including the Sol Plaatje Municipality and the FBDM have been very favourably received.

Girls from a number of local schools joined the staff at the FBDM and had a real look at what took place in a normal administrative day. The girls spent time with the Speaker and the Director Administration and at the end of the day said that they were really impressed by what they saw and heard. One young lady said that “it actually does not seem to be that difficult”!

All of them agreed that the programme gave them a lot of opportunities to experience first-hand what happened in the working environment and they could base future decisions on these experiences.

TOWARDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND UPLIFTMENT...

REGIONAL COUNCIL LEVIES

The Minister of Finance announced in his 2005 Budget Speech that Regional Council Levies will be abolished on 30 June 2006.

Frances Baard District Municipality will not register new business on their system from 01 July 2006.

However, businesses are still liable for Regional Council Levies until 30 June 2006. Businesses with annual and uneven payment cycles are liable for the prorata period until 30 June 2006.

The Council will still continue to collect, through normal and legal procedures, all outstanding levy amounts due.

We thank you for your loyalty and support over the years.

REGIONAL COUNCIL LEVIES



CLEANING AND GREENING OF THE GRAVEYARD IN KOOPMANSFONTEIN

Koopmansfontein, situated 110 km from Kimberley on the Postmasburg road, forms part of the District Management Area (DMA) of the FBDM. More than 90% of this community is unemployed and have no source of income except for the few who depend on Government Grants. On 05 June 2006, two days after World Environmental Health

Day, the FBDM launched its local environmental week. During this week a cleaning and greening project, with the focus on the newly developed and fenced graveyard, was run to make the community in Koopmansfontein more aware of their environment. The project created work for fifteen (15) residents

CANDLE LIGHT MEMORIAL DAY

21 May is International Candle Light Day when the world commemorates all people who are infected and affected by HIV/Aids and those who lost their lives because of the disease.

The FBDM launched a programme to commemorate the day at Olierivier Farm (situated 20km before Koopmansfontein on the Postmasburg road). The programme included a church service with motivational speeches from various community members and invited guests. Candles were lit during the service and kept burning throughout.

STAFF NEWS



Yonela Tshangana
Superintendent:
Roads



Patrick Dilapiso
IT Technician

Appointments



Jongilanga Mpokwane
Administrative Assistant



Boitumelo Balepile
Receptionist / Typist



Masego Rwasoka
Assistant Clerk
(Speaker/Mayor)
(Temp)

Long service awards

Name	Appointment Date	Years
Job Douw	10 February 1986	20 years
Jacob Mokgele	09 February 1981	25 years
William Combring	1 February 1986	20 years
Andrew Segapo	01 March 1991	15 years
Johan Nel	18 March 1991	15 years
Johannes Seekoei	01 March 1991	15 years

Resignations

Mr Anton Rossouw	Mechanic	(12 years and 10 months)
Ms Liezl Jovner	Control Room Operator	(8 years)
Mr Reivilo Olivier	Superintendent: Roads	(9 years and 7 months)
Mrs Desiree Jacobs	Telephonist / Clerk	(8 years and 1 month)
laas Eland	Grader Operator	(11 years and 5 months)
Mrs Roseline Monosi	Tea Lady / Cleaner	(10 years and 10 months)

Editorial Note

We are at the beginning of a new era for the FBDM, a brand new Council and new ideas with a fresh perspective.

We welcome the Executive Mayor with his first contribution to this publication and we trust that you have enjoyed this issue as all the rest before it.

As always we wish to extend an invitation to you to send us any newsworthy information or contact us if you have any story that you think is worth coverage.

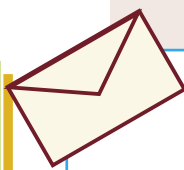
The financial year is coming to an end and we hope that the information on the 2006/07 budget is helpful and informative. For any further clarity on the budget process - or any article in the publication for that matter - please feel free to contact us.

Gerline Roman
Editor

Congratulations to Noxolo Molepo with the birth of her baby daughter and Mariëtte Pienaar with the birth of her son, André.

We are also thinking of our colleagues, Zelda Moss and Frank Mdee. Zelda is still in hospital since 17th March 2006 and Frank is recovering from an operation. We all hope to have them back soon!!

Mr Joël Thubisang. Joël suddenly passed away on 25 March 2006. He was employed by FBDM for a period of 23 years and seven months. He is missed by his colleagues!



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