

# WATERWORX

*The official newsletter of Magalies Water*



## IN THIS ISSUE:

**MAGALIES WATER BAGS ANOTHER CLEAN  
AUDIT**

**NW PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON PREMIER,  
FINANCE AND COGHSTA INTERACTS WITH  
MAGALIES WATER OVER BULK WATER  
SUPPLY**

**MAGALIES WATER CLINCHES CLEAN  
AUDIT YET AGAIN**

**MAGALIES WATER HOSTS MALIWIAN  
DELEGATION ON BENCHMARKING TOUR**

**HAMMANSKRAAL WATER ISSUES UNDER  
THE SPOTLIGHT AS MINISTER RECEIVES  
ACCOUNT OF BULK WATER PROVISION TO  
GAUTENG PROVINCE BY MW**

## EDITOR'S NOTE

*Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the  
courage to continue that is counts.*

*- Winston S. Churchill*

Having settled into the second quarter of the 2021/22 financial year, there is no doubt that all of us have found our rhythm and have put our past success behind us. This as we look ahead to double our efforts and outdo our previous performance in ensuring that Magalies Water continues to receive the national recognition it has been accorded on the back of outstanding performance. In this issue, we continue to celebrate and honour the most important assets of Magalies Water, without whom none of the on-going success would be possible - its people.

Another noteworthy occurrence is how our organization continues to be the hallmark of excellence, this as we are proud to have played hosts to our counterparts from the Lilongwe Water Board in Malawi, who spent a couple of days, in South Africa to have a first hand experience on how Magalies Water is positioning itself as a worthy competitor within the water sector. Our male employees, who put in the hard work and time to make Magalies Water a resounding success were honoured with a special gathering of men only "men's conference" where a safe space was created for them to engage about issues in their work and personal lives. This as an effort to help them re-invent and become better men who can relate with women in a manner which promotes respect and cooperation.

## Hammankraal Water Issues Under The Spotlight, As Minister Receives Report on Water Supply in Gauteng by Magalies Water

The Ministry of Water and Sanitation led by Minister Senzo Mchunu continued with its nation-wide engagements on the state of water and sanitation. During the Gauteng leg of the fact-finding mission, Magalies Water was invited to table a report as one of the water boards who are serving the most populous province which is also the economic mecca of South Africa. Parts of the City of Tshwane have previously been a stronghold for the North West based water utility and that continues unabated, despite that MW is no longer in charge of the operation and maintenance of the Temba Water Treatment Plant, from which the residents of Hammankraal receive bulk water supply.



**From Left to Right: Deputy Chairperson of the Interim Board - Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo, General Manager: Stakeholder and Customer Services - Ms. Kelebogile Mogamisi and Magalies Water Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize**

When focusing on the continuing water supply challenges in the Hammankraal area of the City of Tshwane, Magalies Water Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize said the water utility had been servicing the area from the mid-1990's after the City Council awarded Magalies Water a operation and managing contract of the Temba Water Treatment Plant, until the City resolved to end the contract in 2012. The City in the same year took over full control of the plant from Magalies Water.

Mkhize said in the period, within which Magalies Water had a contract with the City of Tshwane, did not experience bulk water supply challenges. He continued "

during the time when Magalies Water had full authority over the water treatment plant, residents of Hammankraal and other areas which relied on the plant, did not experience water supply as it relates to water quantity and or water quality. In line with the industry standards, our processes ensure that water which was produced, meets the SANS 241 drinking water quality standards" Mkhize reiterated.

Magalies Water says, it has always been focused on two objectives; to ensure that residents receive clean drinking water and that the water supplied meets all the set industry standards at all material times. The Chief Executive said, the association of Magalies Water with supply challenges currently being experienced in Hammankraal arise from the historical association with the City of Tshwane and is also as result of MW's presence in the Tshwane area, where they are providing bulk water services to Wallmansthal, Cullinan and other areas in the northern part of the City along the Limpopo provincial boundry.



**Responding to Water Supply Issues in Tshwane: Magalies Water Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize**

Three of the water utility's water treatment plants (Klipdrift, Wallmannsthal and Cullinan) are located within the Tshwane Metropolitan jurisdiction and jointly supply about half of the 70 Mℓ/d combined design capacity of its bulk water per day to the Republic's capital city.

Currently some of the challenges which Magalies Water is faced with in its area of operation in Gauteng include the emergence of informal settlements, which have resulted in those communities, illegally connecting onto the bulk water pipelines. Further to this, the rapid population growth of the area has led to the water demand in the area, far exceeding the current water supply.

Mkhize said there are a number of interventions which have already started to take shape in addressing these challenges “to ensure that we can account for the bulk water supply, where illegal connections have been affixed to our infrastructure, we have already installed bulk water meters, to assist us in quantifying our bulk water provision to the city. We have also begun discussions with the Petra Diamond Mine to acquire the raw water system, currently owned by the mine. This will go a long way in addressing the current water demand with additional access to additional raw water, which we can treat to acceptable standards for end user consumption.



Minister, we have already submitted the water use license application (WULA), which will allow us to increase the abstraction and water treatment capacity of our infrastructure to ensure that our plants are able to cope with the current and future potable water demand” Mkhize reiterated.

Magalies Water has commenced with the plans to upgrade the Wallmannsthal water treatment plant and to refurbish the Cullinan water treatment plant, to ensure that its bulk water infrastructure responds to the rapid population expansion of the area. Plans are afoot to increase the supply capacity of the two plants by 18 mega-litres per day and 4 mega-litres per day, respectively. Both the projects are anticipated to commence in the 2022/23 financial year.



**Deputy Chairperson of the Interim Board - Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo makes introductory remarks ahead of the tabling of the report by Magalies C.E Mr. Sandile Mkhize**

After the raw water abstraction infrastructure was washed away by the December 2019 floods, the Petra Diamond Mine constructed a temporary pump station dedicated to the Cullinan water treatment plant to ensure continuity of supply to the Cullinan communities and businesses.



**Minister Senzo Mchunu, leads Water and Sanitation Delegation Ahead of Engagement Session with the Magalies Water Board**

## Magalies Water Hosts Lilongwe Water Board Delegation, on Benchmarking Tour

Magalies Water continues to be one of the industry leaders in the provision of bulk water supply. Counterparts from the Lilongwe Water Board in Malawi, recently visited South Africa for a long-week benchmarking tour, which included a two-day tour of Magalies Water operation sites. Lead by Charles Kachingwe - Water Quality and Environmental Manager, Gawachalo Nyondo - Engineering Services and Bester Kamudza - Operations Supervisor.

The two day tour, was led by Area Manager Mr. Sandile Ngcobo who is based at Magalies Water's largest water treatment plant at Vaalkop, some 60 kilometers outside the mining town of Rustenburg. The tour commenced, at the Brits Scientific Services of the water utility located in the Madibeng Local Municipality. The world class facility is home to scientists employed by Magalies Water who are tasked with among other responsibilities, testing water quality and conducting other series of tests and research, which contribute to generally acceptable standards of water consumption.



**Magalies Water Scientific Services Laboratory in Brits - Madibeng Local Municipality**

The Scientific Services laboratory is instrumental in assisting municipalities during incidents of poor water quality, as the facility has the latest technology and skilled personnel to produce conclusive results about causes and possible solution within the bulk network.



**Magalies Water's Dr. Vhangwele Akinwekomi and Lilongwe Water Board's Gawachalo Nyondo during the two-day visit at the Brits Scientific Services Laboratory**

The Magalies Water Scientific Services is a SANAS 17025 accredited laboratory that offers the water industry a wide variety of services in the fields of chemical and microbiological analyses, as well as expert advice on water-related problems. Water supply from Magalies Water is tested every two hours at the treatment plants to ensure compliance to SANS drinking water specifications on turbidity (clarity), stability (pH control) and disinfection (chlorine concentration). This compliance monitoring is done in accordance with SANS 241: Class 1 drinking water standards.



**The Delegation from Lilongwe Water Board listen on to Magalies Water Scientific Services personnel on the operations carried out at the facility**

## Magalies Water Hosts Lilongwe Water Board Delegation Continued...

The Magalies Water Scientific Services Laboratory fuses the specialist knowledge of our team of licensed professionals, including qualified chemical scientists, microbiologists and water-treatment technologists with state of the art testing technology, equipment and instruments. The instruments include a Varian inductively coupled plasma spectrometer (ICP), an atomic absorption spectrophotometer and flow injection analysis instruments.

This enables Magalies Water to offer an all-inclusive suite of services to test water samples for an extensive set of quality parameters, such as unsafe contamination through the likes of viruses, minerals, chemicals, bacteria and organic materials. All these essentially serve to make sure that the water that reaches the consumers is healthy and safe to drink, or suitable for domestic use.



**Stakeholder and Business Development Manager - Phatela Lebogo and Area Msanager - West : Sandile Ngcobo listen on as LWB representative provides an overview of the week long visit to South Africa**

The representatives from the Lilongwe Water Board, when reacting to the state of the facility as well as the work which is done internally, said this was a monumental achievement said Nyondo "In Malawi, while we are ceased with the responsibility of ensuring that residents in the capital are provided with clean drinking water, most of the work which is carried out internally here is not what we do back at home. It makes our tour to South Africa worthwhile as there are a lot of lessons to be learned and critical information which we will have to ponder on once we get back home" Nyondo said emphatically.

The chemistry laboratories perform extensive testing in organic and inorganic chemistry to monitor water quality for parameters such as pesticides, disinfection by-products, hydrocarbons, trace metals, surfactants, ions, taste and odour.

The microbiology laboratory performs analyses to determine for the presence of indicator organisms (E. coli, coliforms, coliphages etc.) and analyses various sample matrices for an array of pathogens including Cryptosporidium and Giardia.



**Employees at the Scientific Services Laboratory Conducting Analysis**

One of the Magalies Water personnel who is stationed at the Brits based scientific laboratory - Phindile Mahlangu took the LWB officials to another section of the facility, where numerous activities including research on formation of bacteria is being investigated. Mahlangu said, in their line of work things are constantly changing as such she and her colleagues are always doing research as well as furthering their academic studies to keep up with the latest sector related information and technology, key to resolving some of the current water challenges in the water sector.



## Magalies Water Hosts Lilongwe Water Board Delegation Continued...



Later the tour progressed to the Klipdrift Water Treatment Plant north of Pretoria. Klipdrift Water Treatment Plant (KWTP) has a design capacity of 42ML/day abstracting raw water from the Roodeplaat Dam in the Pienaar River Catchment area. Potable water from this plant is supplied across Limpopo, to Modimolle-Mookgophong Municipality, North West - Moretele Local Municipality and Gauteng - City of Tshwane Metro Municipality through a 97 km pipeline.

The first day of the two day tour, ended at the Vaalkop Water Treatment Plant, which is home to the water utility's biggest plant. At the facility, the delegation went on a walk-about to get a sense of the size of the plant, its production capacity as well as the operating procedures which ensure around-the-clock optimal performance. The Vaalkop water treatment plant, services the majority of the areas found within the Bojanala Platinum District such as the Rustenburg and Moses Kotane Local Municipalities, including an exhaustive list of mining operations found in the district spread across the aforementioned municipalities.

### Walk About - Klipdrift Water Treatment Plant...



**Plant Manager: Marius Steyn, welcomes the delegation to the Klipdrift Water Treatment Plant and gives an overview of the facility and design aspects**



The second day of the tour, commenced at the Haartebeespoort dam, which is also a prime tourist destination in the Bojanala District. The stop-over at the dam, was to give the LWB officials, a sense of the challenges the water sector is faced with, in particular Magalies Water as it is located at the end of the consumer value chain. In recent years the dam, has made news headlines after it was found to have been invaded by hyacinth.



## In Honour of Men - Magalies Water Hosts "Men's Conference"

The Vaalkop Water Treatment Plant, was abuzz with activity as the male workforce of Magalies Water converged on 5th November 2021, to sit and discuss among themselves about the challenges which modern day men are faced with. With the theme "better relations between men and women" the day sought to give men a safe space to talk about some of the most frowned upon discussions, in society with the aim of creating impactful, respectful and protective men within the society.

The event followed another well delivered event earlier in the year, which was held in August as part of women's month activities and celebrations within the organization. The men's conference was attended by the company's Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize, with male members of the interim Board including Deputy Chairperson - Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo, Mr. Itumeleng Mosala, Mr. David Morienyane and Mr. George Shoahle.



**Talking about "qualities of a good man" is Mr. Mvelo Madlala from Magalies Water's Human Resources Unit as he made his opening remarks to kick-start proceedings.**

While presenting a message of support on behalf of the executive, the entity's CE Mr. Sandile Mkhize said any organisation that values its workforce will be interested in the wellbeing of their employees. He continued "in the work environment and by extension in other areas of our lives, we become our worst enemies by always doing things that hurt us directly, but thinking that the impact of our consequences will be felt even more by the next person. It is for that reason that even on other occasions as an organisation we fail to achieve our objectives. As some men among us, do things for the wrong reason, things which hurt the organisation more than it does to the next person" Mkhize lamented.



**Magalies Water Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize**

**Sitting on the front row: Male members of the interim Board of Magalies Water**

Mr. Mvelo Madlala, got the engagement started by rendering opening remarks. He explained the purpose of why all the men had converged at Vaalkop, with a day that has been set aside to give men time and space to ventilate while in a safe space. He continued " we spend a lot our time in the workplace, on average about 80 hours per week. As such we need to talk and reflect about those things which affect us both personally and professionally. That way, we close rank among ourselves and ensure that our shared workspace remains professional and conducive to all" he said.



**Male employees of Magalies Water at the Men's Conference held at Vaalkop Water Treatment Plant**

Deputy Chairperson of the interim Board, Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo delivered a message on behalf of the board. Dr. Twalo said, with the world which has changed a lot, there is no room for complacency for men need to also claim their space and express their issues, as this is a proven method of assisting persons who may be experiencing difficulties at work and home. Twalo continued "you can never say you have grown, and have learnt it all. It is my view that you need to keep on reinventing and learning, that is the only way you can develop as a person and become a better person who will have good relations with women and ultimately the society. It is therefore incumbent upon us to cease every opportunity to become better men" Twalo emphasized.



**Deputy Chairperson of the Interim Board - Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo**

Speaker after speaker, the message was clear and consistent that men needed to take care of their physical, emotional and psychological well-being which will translate into them enjoying all areas of their lives, while making the most of everyday. Motivational Speaker and thought leader Mr. Linda Ntuli who was the main speaker at the event said, men today are pressurised by society's unrealistic expectations.



**Mr. Linda Ntuli - Guest Speaker at the Men's Conference**

Ntuli continued "today most of the people drowning in debt are men, mainly due to societal pressure and wanting to make statements to people who do not have any positive impact on them. It is for that reason, that in organizations such as Magalies Water, you will have instances of poor performance which are not linked to the job itself but the added stresses that are not linked to the work environment" he said.

There was overwhelming feedback from the attendees, who were impressed by Ntuli's presentation and the many important sub-themes he touched on while delivering his keynote address. Some of the issues he focused on were related to masculinity in the context of a modern day career man, who needs to have influence and positive impact within his immediate social construct.

# Photos: Men's Conference



## Portfolio Committee on Premier, Finance and COGHSTA Interact With Magalies Water on a Three-Day Visit



**From Left to Right: Magalies Water Chief Executive - Mr. Sandile Mkhize, Interim Board Chairperson Ms. Pinky Mokoto, Board Member - Ms. Bukeka Mahlutsana and Deputy Interim Board Chairperson Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo**

Magalies Water hosted the North West Provincial Legislature's Committee on Premier, Finance and Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs led by its chairperson Honourable Aaron Motswana. Also in attendance during the 3 day visit to the Bojanala district was the Standing Committee on Public Accounts - SCOPA led by Honourable Job Dislo.

The portfolio committee which is also responsible for oversight in the Department of Local Government, was doing a follow-up visit on some of the projects that were undertaken by the various local municipalities, including the infrastructure projects relating to bulk water supply. The visit covered the Brits Water Treatment plant upgrade project, Vaalkop Water Treatment plant and bulk water upgrade projects in Koster and Swaartruggens.



**Portfolio Committee Chairperson on Premier, Finance and COGHSTA - Hon. Aaron Motswana providing an overview of the oversight visit to water projects in the Bojanala district**

At the Brits Water Treatment Plant, the two committee received a briefing on the work which has been done by Magalies Water. Mr Jimwell Leburu, who is the project manager from Magalies Water, led the delegation across the sections of construction at the water treatment plant. The facility is currently being upgraded from a 60 mega litre to an 80 mega litre per day plant. Just under half-a-million people in the Madibeng Local Municipality will benefit directly from this upgrade. Some of the areas which will be supplied from the Brits water treatment plant include, Oukasie, Oskraal, Sonop, Letlhabile and Mothotlung among other areas within the jurisdiction.



**From Left to Right: Magalies Water Board Member - Mr. David Morienyane, Project Manager - Mr. Jimwell Leburu and GM Stakeholder and Customer Services Ms. Kele Mogamisi going through a progress report**

While Motswana was impressed with the work which has been done, he said communities can no longer be used as bait over the relationship between the municipality, provincial government as well as the national department responsible for water over budgetary constraints when people had not increased access to clean drinking water for prolonged periods "we appreciate the work which has been done by Magalies Water, however the municipality needs to close rank with CoGTA as the responsible department in the province to ensure that bottlenecks are resolved and the project is completed" Motswana commented.

## Portfolio Committee on Premier, Finance and COGHSTA Interact With Magalies Continued...



**Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA) Chairperson Hon. Job Dliiso, engages Magalies Water Project Manager at Brits Water Treatment Plant, on some of the incomplete works at the facility**

Day two of the oversight visit by the committee was held at water utility's biggest water treatment plant at Vaalkop. The engagement included representatives from the Moses Kotane Local Municipality, which is also one of the bulk consumers from the plant. The municipality in the engagement with the committee presented some of their current water supply challenges within their jurisdiction with the current data, indicating a continued water demand, against the current supply to the region.



**Committee Chairperson on Premier, Finance and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs - Hon. Aaron Motswana, flanked by committee member Hon. Matshidiso Botsoe at Magalies Water's Vaalkop Plant**

Magalies Water was represented in the day 2 of the engagement, by its Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize, acting Chief Operations Officer Mr. Ofentse Nthutang and GM Stakeholder and Customer Services Ms. Kele Mogamisi. While the board was represented by Chairperson, Ms. Pinki Mokoto, Deputy Chairperson Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo, and Ms. Bukeka Mhlutshana.

Thembinkosi Twalo, as well as other board members Dr. Lydia Sebege and Ms. Bukeka Mhlutshana. The Magalies Water delegation, outlined some of the challenges, which give effect to the water supply challenges which include the poor quality of the raw water as well as the rolling power supply interruptions which affect the performance and operation of the water treatment plant.

The plant currently services the following areas, through an integrated bulk network from the plant to command reservoirs, before the water is channeled into the reticulation network:

- Mogwase
- Mabele-a-pudi
- Moruleng
- Sefikile
- Mantserre



**Interim Board Chairperson, Ms. Pinky Mokoto looks on as Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize and Acting Chief Operations Officer Mr. Ofentse Nthutang ready a presentation for the portfolio committee**

## Dr. Masindi Receives Award from UNISA and NRF Improved Rating for Research



**Dr. Vhangwele Masindi Receives an Award from the University of South Africa on his contribution towards research in science, innovation, technology and engineering**

Dr. Vhangwele Masindi based at the Brits' Scientific Services Laboratory, has been awarded another accolade by the University of South Africa - UNISA for his sterling contribution towards research, innovation, science and engineering. In responding to the news of his award by South Africa's largest distance-learning university Dr. Masindi said the recognition made all his efforts worth the trouble, he continued " I am very ecstatic. It is always consoling and exhilarating when you work to serve the purpose and you get rewarded along the quest" Dr. Masindi concluded.

Dr. Masindi, has been working tirelessly in the last half-decade together with other scholars on numerous research papers. He has also invested himself into acquiring more knowledge as it relates to the water sector, he remarked "I have significantly contributed in the space of science and innovation. I have developed, piloted and implement a number of technologies in water and wastewater treatment, valorisation and beneficiation. Primarily to foster the concept of sustainability and circular economy.

Some of the contributions were published in prestigious, high impact factor, and reputable international and peer-reviewed scientific journals. Specifically, I have published more than 65 peer reviewed papers, 45 conference proceeding, 6 book chapters and 4 PCT patents. Majority of my papers were published in specialised journals and they were amongst the top-cited papers in majority of the journals leading to me being amongst the top-cited researcher globally. This could be commended by the high SCI score. Selected recent publications include:

Baloyi, N. D., Tekere, M., Maphangwa, K. W. & Masindi, V. 2021. Insights Into the Prevalence and Impacts of Phthalate Esters in Aquatic Ecosystems. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 9.

Ivanets, A., Prozorovich, V., Roshchina, M., Kouznetsova, T., Budeiko, N., Kulbitskaya, L., Hosseini-Bandegharai, A., Masindi, V. & Pankov, V. 2021a. A comparative study on the synthesis of magnesium ferrite for the adsorption of metal ions: Insights into the essential role of crystallite size and surface hydroxyl groups. *Chemical Engineering Journal*, 411, 128523.

Ivanets, A., Prozorovich, V., Sarkisov, V., Roshchina, M., Grigoraviciute-Puroniene, I., Zarkov, A., Kareiva, A., Masindi, V., Wang, C., Srivastava, V. & Sillanpää, M. 2021b. Effect of magnesium ferrite doping with lanthanide ions on dark-, visible- and UV-driven methylene blue degradation on heterogeneous Fenton-like catalysts. *Ceramics International*.

Masindi, V., Chatzisyneon, E., Kortidis, I. & Foteinis, S. 2018. Assessing the sustainability of acid mine drainage (AMD) treatment in South Africa. *Science of The Total Environment*, 635, 793-802.

Masindi, V. & Foteinis, S. 2021a. Groundwater contamination in sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for groundwater protection in developing countries. *Cleaner Engineering and Technology*, 2, 100038.

Masindi, V. & Foteinis, S. 2021b. Recovery of phosphate from real municipal wastewater and its application for the production of phosphoric acid. *Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering*, 9, 106625.

## Dr. Masindi Receives Award from UNISA and NRF Improved Rating for Research



**Dr. Vhahangwele Masindi and other award recipients**

This has earned him a number of awards and nominations and they include the CSIR- built Environment Emerging Researcher, CSIR Emerging Researcher, National Science and Technology Forum (NFST) Emerging Researcher, Standard Bank Rising star, Murray & Robert Emerging Researcher, WRC award, Best Research output, 2020 South African Young Academy of Science, UNISA annual award (Outstanding academic associate), UNISA divisional awards (Outstanding academic associate) and the Intellectual Creator award by The National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO).

Stellar research outputs and academic standing further earned him academic citizenship positions such as the Editor for Water SA journal, guest editor for Minerals journal, moderator and reviewer for the National Research Foundation (NRF), Visiting Principal Research Scientist for the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Visiting Research Scientist in The University of Edinburgh (UK) and Research Fellow for the University of South Africa. He also serves in different academic advisory boards, steering committees, examination panel, moderation committees, and technical committees for different organisations and institutions nationally.

Dr. Masindi says, in ensuring that his research can not only be beneficial to scholars, but can be applied to real-life experiences lies in locating what the challenge could be. He continued "the genesis of most scientific study is the research problem. The primary quest will be to solve the prevailing problem by developing working, compatible and realistic solutions to address the problem at hand. To avoid participating in blue-sky research, majority of my research projects undergo through different metamorphosis of research interventions and that entail laboratory assays (experiments), piloting, and (full scale) implementation. This is also guided by the technology readiness level (TRL)" he said.

The trump card is to develop technologies that seek to address challenges that are being experienced in the industry and thoroughly administer the technical and economic aspects of the technology. This will ensure smooth uptake and implementability of the developed technologies. Robustness tests and due diligence are the underpinning principles that enhance the viability of the developed technologies.



**One of Magalies Water's Pilot Plant which is used for research trials, in improving laboratory services of the water utility**

## Dr. Masindi Receives Award from UNISA and NRF Improved Rating for Research

On his National Research Foundation's (NRF) ratings Dr. Masindi says this depends on the weight of the research and impact which it may make once published "NRF ratings consider a researcher's recent research outputs and impact as perceived by international peer reviewers. The rating system encourages researchers to publish high quality outputs in high impact journals/outlets. It is very much encouraging to be acknowledged and recognised by peers in your domain specifically through accredited and peer reviewed systems like the NRF rating system. This advocates for the quality of work you produce and its potential impact in the community" Dr Masindi emphasized.



**Magalies Water's Brits based Scientific Service Laboratory**

Dr. Masindi says he fully believes that research is the only tool that can be utilised to solve modern day problems. Proper research structure and systematic approach which is underpinned to sound and creditable methodologies are the central tools to solve our daily problems and challenges.

When probed about his further research contributions this is what he had to say " I see myself developing technologies that will contribute in the development of solutions to erratic and seasonal challenges in terms of water resource management. Also, to endeavour to align my research to national, regional and international research drivers, strategies, road maps, and focus with the quest to foster local and international research agendas when it comes to water resource management" he commented.

The trailer is a Pilot Plant for Magalies Water, which is called "A Mobile Pilot Plant". The Pilot Plant was procured by Magalies Water in 2020 and is used for research trials. Specifically for piloting of technologies prior full scale implementation. This is more of a technology risk control strategy in technology verification and assessment. Using a stage-wise explanation, it is subjected to laboratory experiments (1 L) (Stage 1), then proceeds to semi-pilot trials (White reactors with a mixer at the top - 180 L) (Stage 2), and if successful, the technology will be taken to pilot trial using the Trailer (1000 L) (Stage 3).

Currently, there are projects (at pilot stage) such as:

- Breakpoint chlorination for the removal of ammonia at Wallmansthal WTP
- Chlorine demand and decay studies for Vaalkop WTP
- Manganese removal for Cullinan WTP
- Chloramination at Wallmansthal WTP
- Chlorine dioxide as a post-disinfectant at Wallmansthal WTP.

Other projects include:

- Profiling of emerging contaminants and their temporospatial migration in water purifications processes
  - Profiling microbial community in distribution networks
  - Profiling and attenuation of anti-resistance genes in distribution networks
  - Exploring the dolomitic effects on manganese removal.
- Magalies Water has employees participating in these projects for their advanced degrees (Masters and PhD) hence contributing to HCD of the company



## Magalies Water Yet Another Clean Audits with an Improved Performance of 95%

Magalies Water received its clean audit, second year running on the back of the achievements which the water utility registered at the end of the 2019/20 financial year. These developments, came to light after the Auditor General of South Africa (AGSA) concluded the auditing process of the North West based organisation.

In a letter to the staff compliment of Magalies Water, Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize, said he was elated to have been part of yet another successful year in the organisation, which was further validated by the audit outcomes as carried out by the Auditor General of South Africa.

Mkhize continued "I would like to thank all members of the Board, and Executive Committee; without whose support we would not have been able to deliver on what we had set for ourselves at the beginning of the financial year. More importantly, I want to pass my sincere gratitude to all our employees, from the various water treatment plants, the scientific services laboratories and those based at Head Office, whose combined dedication and passion ensures that Magalies Water reaches unprecedented heights. We wouldn't have been able to register this astounding achievement without your undoubtable efforts" remarked the C.E

Magalies Water had been previously, been lauded for its high-performance culture by the former Minister of Human Settlements Water and Sanitation Lindiwe Sisulu. In the previous financial year, Magalies Water had achieved about 93% of the overall strategic objectives. In the 2020/21 financial year, the organisation showed an overall improvement by attaining a record-high of 95% which is a two percent improvement on their organisation's year-on-year performance as it relates to the audit outcome.

During the staff information session, which reflected on the performance of quarter of the previous financial years (2019/20), which was recently held the Chief Executive said, Magalies Water continues to make strides in the water sector. Development in this regard, include a possible expansion of operations into parts of the North West and Limpopo provinces, where the utility already has a solid foot print. Mkhize said, this will ensure that Magalies Water grows to equally match the other water boards, which over time have grown tremendously by including new service areas for bulk water supply. The entity has performed beyond the set target in respect of bulk water sales to its customers. Magalies Water continues to produce and supply water that meets the SANS 241: 2015 standard and has been able to maintain the standards as set out. While the organization continues to be a trailblazer, it has not been able to achieve the 24 set targets, managing to only achieve 21 out of the set total.



**Magalies Water Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize**

## Year End Function To Highlight GBV and HIV/AIDS Pandemic Held

Bundu Inn, east of Pretoria was the rendezvous for the 2021 event to mark 16 days of activism against gender-based violence and commemoration of World AIDS Day. In addition, the event was used to further promote dialogue among employees on the implications and effects of the novel corona virus, which has not spared work places across many industries. Employees have been infected with the virus while others succumbed to the virus, as it mutated through differing variants such as beta, delta and the currently dominant variant called omicron. The function was also used to unveil Magalies Water's official mascot "Rametsi" which means " a father figure (Ra) and water (metsi). Rametsi is an extension of the Magalies Water brand and seeks to increase the organization's presence in the public, by ensuring continued public awareness about water conservation campaigns within the Magalies Water area of operation.



**Magalies Water's Official Mascot - "RaMetsi"**

The General Manager - Stakeholder and Customer Services Ms. Kelebogile Mogamisi in her opening remarks said, it was important for the organization to set time aside and reflect on some of the social ills plaguing the country. She said, too often many of the working class are consumed by their professional lives, to the extent that no one takes a moment on how some of the things which occur outside the work environment impact negatively on productivity " we deemed it fit to gather here today and reflect on gender based violence and the pain and devastation which has been left by the scourge of HIV and AIDS. While we do not do this often, we understand that before you are employees of this great organization, you are parents, and community members who are affected by these issues one way or another" Mogamisi remarked.

The event is a gesture of appreciation by the board and management of Magalies Water, who are unable to meet all staff members due to the essential services the organization which are spread over three provinces. The function was also used as an opportunity to promote health and wellness among Magalies Water staff complement, as testing stations for HIV/AIDS and other chronic diseases were made available to staff on site.



**GM Stakeholder and Customer Services - Ms. Kelebogile Mogamisi**

The occasion was also used, to reflect on the devastating effects of the novel corona-virus, which in the last year had dented the economy of the country, resulting in closure of businesses across varying sectors of the economy with thousands of livelihoods severely disrupted. Nurse Sphiwe Nhiwantiwa who is an educator and a facilitator at the University of Pretoria, led discussions on Covid-19 with a special focus on the newly found variant omicron. This variant is said to have 40 mutations and while scientists are still investigating its traits, there had been mass travel bans across the world, since South African scientists discovered this new strain of the virus.

## Function Held To Highlight GBV and HIV/AIDS Pandemic Held by Magalies Water



**Nurse Sphiwe Nhiwantiwa talks on the Covid-19 complexities after the discovery of the omicron variant**

The staff was also afforded an opportunity to weigh in on the topic and demonstrate their understanding of development about how to protect themselves against the spread of Covid-19. The contentious of mandatory vaccine came under the spotlight as well as the contributing factors, to the spike in rising cases of new cases.

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**Magalies Water Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize**

While addressing the gathering, said it would have been a great celebration if in 2021, he nation would have conquered the enemy of women and children that gender-based violence has become. He added "we however are grateful that HIV/AIDS is no longer the deadly disease we once knew it to have been. With access to information, widely available medicines, this diseases is a manageable chronic diseases which needs to be managed for one to enjoy a long and healthy life" Mkhize said.



**Rametsi seen here with Exco Members: Standing Left to Right : Mr. Jimwell Leburu Acting General Manager - PMU, Acting Chief Operations Officer Mr. Ofentse Nthutang, Chief Financial Officer Ms. Matshidiso Tabane, General Manager Stakeholder & Customer Services Ms. Kelebogile Mogamisi, Acting General Manager Water Services Mr. Sandile Ngcobo and Chief Executive Mr. Sandile Mkhize**

The Chief Executive also took time to wish the Magalies Water family a safe festive season, to be aware that in addition to road fatalities, there is Covid-19 which unlike road accidents it invincible required extra caution in reducing the number of infections.



# Vision

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

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