

UGU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

**MINUTES OF THE 41ST MEETING OF THE UGU DISTRICT MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, RAY NKONYENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,
ON THURSDAY, 24 JULY 2025, AT 11H04**

Cllr SR Ngcobo - Speaker

IS Mqadi (Mayor), SN Caluza (Exco Member), D Nciki (Exco Member), GD Henderson (Exco Member), JS Ngwane (Exco Member), NA Njenga (Exco Member), MP Shoji, P Breedt, SV Duma, NT Dlamini, SP Fica, AW Gege, SE Khawula, MJ Cele-Luthuli, MA Manyoni, SD Mdluli, SEH Mngoma, SP Mthethwa, NY Mweshe, PZ Mzindle, N Ndadane, NO Mazubane, M Mbatha, X Nkasa, B Nyuswa, Z Opperman, J Schmidt, PC Shange, MP Tenza, MV Vezi, LS Zungu and MPL Zungu

BY INVITATION:

Inkosi EZ Jali
Inkosi MP Ngcobo

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr VO Mazibuko	-	Municipal Manager
Mr K Audan	-	General Manager: Budget and Treasury Office (BTO)
Ms D Rankin	-	General Manager: Economic Development and Environmental Services (EDES)
Dr T Mwelase	-	General Manager: Water Services
Ms MP Gobhozi	-	Acting General Manager: Corporate Services
Ms F Mbili	-	Senior Manager: Corporate Strategy and Shared Services
Ms Z Mpurwana	-	Acting Senior Manager: Mayoralty and Communications
Mr S Kati	-	Chief Audit Executive (CAE)
Ms NP Gumbi	-	Manager: Human Resources
Ms N Mbambo	-	Manager: Legal Services
Mr A Mbhele	-	Manager: Administration & Auxiliary Services
Ms B Danisa	-	Committee Clerk: Secretariat Unit
Ms S Gumbi	-	Committee Clerk: Secretariat Unit
Ms T Kikine	-	Acting Administrative Officer: Secretariat Unit

• OPENING

The Speaker requested Cllr Mthethwa to open the meeting in prayer. He then extended a warm welcome to all present.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of the meeting was taken as read, subject to the change of time from 11h00 to 11h04.

C 264/07/25

APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

It was noted that Cllrs TH Msabala (*family commitment*), TT Hlophe (*sick leave*), FM Ngwane (*council business*) had requested leave of absence from the meeting.

It was noted that Cllrs MJ Cele-Luthuli and GD Henderson had requested to leave the meeting at 13h00.

It was further noted that Cllrs AW Gege, N Ndadane, and MV Vezi would join the meeting late.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Cllrs TH Msabala (*family commitment*), TT Hlophe (*sick leave*), FM Ngwane (*council business*) be and are hereby **GRANTED** leave of absence from the meeting.
- (b) That the request from Cllrs MJ Cele-Luthuli and GD Henderson to leave the meeting at 13h00 be and is hereby **GRANTED**.
- (c) That, it be and hereby **NOTED** that Cllrs AW Gege, N Ndadane, and MV Vezi would join the meeting late.

C 265/07/25

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were none.

C 266/07/25

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The Speaker took members through the confirmation of the agenda. He then requested that Item 10.1: Replacement of Cllr LMR Ngcobo, a (DA PR Councillor) serving on the Ugu District Municipal Council with Cllr Z Opperman and Item 10.2: Replacement of Cllr BN Shoji, (*IFP MR Councillor*) with Cllr M Mbatha be prioritized and discussed after Item 6.1.

Thereafter, Cllr SEH Mngoma moved for the acceptance of the Agenda and was seconded by Cllr SP Mthethwa.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the agenda convening the meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council be and is hereby **CONFIRMED**; subject to the following items being prioritized for discussion after Item 6.1 namely:

- Item 10.1: Replacement of Cllr LMR Ngcobo, a (DA PR Councillor) serving on the Ugu District Municipal Council with Cllr Z Opperman; and
- Item 10.2 Replacement of Cllr BN Shozi, (*IFP MR Councillor*) with M Mbatha.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

C 267/07/25

Minutes of the 40th Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 26 June 2025

The Speaker took members through the confirmation of the minutes for the 40th meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 26 June 2025.

Thereafter, Cllr MJ Cele-Luthuli moved for the acceptance of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr D Nciki.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the 40th Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 26 June 2025 be and are hereby **CONFIRMED**.

RESOLUTIONS REGISTER

C 268/07/25

Resolutions Register for the 40th Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 26 June 2025

The Speaker took members through the Resolutions Register for the 40th meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 26 June 2025.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Resolutions Register for the 40th Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 26 June 2025 be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.

C 269/07/25

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

It was noted that there were none.

STANDING ITEMS

C 270/07/25

Monthly Birthday Greetings: Councillors, Amakhosi and Senior Managers

The Speaker conveyed birthday wishes on behalf of Council to the following Councillors who celebrated their birthdays during the month of July, namely:

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|--------------|
| • Cllr P Breedt | - | 27 July; and |
| • Cllr Z Opperman | - | 06 July. |

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Monthly Birthday Greetings for Councillors, Amakhosi and Senior Managers be and is hereby **NOTED**.

C 271/07/25

Water Supply Status Quo Report

The General Manager: Water Services took members through the report.

She pointed out that the said report was updated on 11 July 2025, and that the information contained in the report was a moving target. She then highlighted the updates on the water supply status quo in each of the following areas, namely:

- Area South Central;
- Area South;
- Area North;
- Area South West; and
- Sanitation infrastructure.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the report on the Water Supply Systems Status Quo be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.

C 272/07/25

SALGA Monthly Report: Nomination of the District SALGA Youth Commission Champion

The Speaker took members through the report.

He informed members that on 24 June 2025, the Office of the Speaker received a correspondence from SALGA regarding the nomination of a District SALGA Youth Commission Champion.

He mentioned that he had held discussions with the Political Chief Whips, prior to presenting the said report to the meeting. He further stated that SALGA had emphasized the need for the Municipality to nominate a young person for the position.

He reported that after discussing same with the Mayor, it was agreed that Cllr LS Zungu should be nominated as the District SALGA Youth Commission Champion.

Following discussion,

It was unanimously,

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Monthly SALGA Report on the Nomination of the District SALGA Youth Commission Champion be and is hereby **CONSIDERED**.
- (b) That, it be and is hereby **NOTED** that Cllr LS Zungu be nominated as the District SALGA Youth Commission Champion.
- (c) That the name of Cllr LS Zungu as the nominated District SALGA Youth Commission Champion be submitted to Sihle Ndlovu at sndlovu@salga.org.za by 27 June 2025.

C 273/07/25 Human Rights Commission Inquiry

It was noted that there was no report.

C 274/07/25 SECTION 79 REPORTS

It was noted that there were none.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

C 275/07/25 Replacement of Cllr LMR Ngcobo, a DA PR Councillor serving on the Ugu District Municipal Council with Cllr Z Opperman

The Speaker took members through the report.

It was noted that the purpose of the report was to inform Council of the replacement of the former Cllr LMR Ngcobo, a DA PR Councillor who served on the Ugu District Municipal Council, with Cllr Z Opperman.

Considering the above, Cllr Z Opperman was sworn in as a PR Councillor in the Ugu District Municipal Council.

Following which,

It was

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report regarding the Replacement of Cllr LMR Ngcobo, a DA PR Councillor serving on the Ugu District Municipal with Cllr Z Opperman be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.
- (b) That, it be and is hereby **NOTED** that Cllr Z Opperman was sworn in as a PR Councillor in the Ugu District Municipal Council.

C 276/07/25 Replacement of Cllr BN Shozi (IFP MR Councillor) with Cllr M Mbatha

The Speaker took members through the report.

It was noted that the purpose of the report was to inform Council of the replacement of Cllr BN Shozi, a MR Councillor representing the Umzumbe Local Municipality who served on the Ugu District Municipal Council, with Cllr M Mbatha.

Considering the above, Cllr M Mbatha was sworn in as an MR Councillor representing Umzumbe Local Municipality in the Ugu District Municipal Council.

Following which,

It was

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report regarding the Replacement of Cllr BN Shozi, (*IFP MR Councillor*) with Cllr M Mbatha be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.
- (b) That, it be and is hereby **NOTED** that Cllr M Mbatha was sworn in as an MR Councillor in the Ugu District Municipal Council.

C 277/07/25

Umtamvuna Electrical Power Upgrade Progress Report

The General Manager: Water Services took members through the report.

In relation to the Umtamvuna Electrical Power Upgrade, she reported that the Municipality had been prepared for the scheduled temporary line shutdown initially set for 21 to 25 July 2025. She mentioned that Eskom had experienced internal operational challenges and subsequently requested that the shutdown be postponed to 29 and 30 July 2025.

She then advised members that the Municipal Manager formally conveyed in writing his dissatisfaction regarding the rescheduling of the shutdown. She stated that Eskom had since issued a firm commitment that the upgrade works would be finalized by 30 July 2025.

She also informed members that the Municipality had received an invitation from the Alfred Nzo District Municipality to attend a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 22 July 2025. She stated that at the said meeting, it was reported that there was notable progress made on the permanent infrastructure project.

She further conveyed that at the said meeting; it was reported that the water project that was identified as the primary reason the community previously withholding the support for the power upgrade had now commenced on site. She mentioned that it was then resolved that Eskom had to secure a written confirmation from all four (04) key stakeholders confirming that same were in support of the continuation of the implementation of the permanent powerline.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Umtamvuna Electrical Power Upgrade Progress Report be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.

C 278/07/25

Progress Report on the Implementation of the Emergency Borehole Programme

The General Manager: Water Services took members through the report.

She reminded members that the members had previously requested for the submission of a detailed report on the implementation of the borehole project. She pointed out that the said report related to the boreholes that had been commissioned, and the precise geographical locations of the said boreholes across the four (04) Local Municipalities.

She then indicated that the primary challenge confronting the Municipality pertained to the persistent vandalism of the borehole infrastructure, with communities repeatedly damaging electrical cables and stealing the solar panels which significantly compromised the operational efficiency of the said boreholes.

She reported that the Municipality had established a team internally that would be responsible for the maintenance of the boreholes. She explained that the Municipality had previously engaged the external service providers for the said function, as the boreholes were newly installed. She further encouraged the members and the communities to report the boreholes that were non-functional.

Adding, the Municipal Manager informed members that the Executive Committee had identified deficiencies in terms of the water provision in the Northern areas. He indicated that one of the contributing factors related to inadequate staff supervision. He reported that Ms N. Surajbally was then seconded as an Administrator to support the Manager: Area North with administrative functions and staff supervision. He further stated that, in the Southern region, Mr M. Luswazi, the Manager: Area South Central, had been assigned to provide support to Mr D. Zuma, the Manager: Area South.

Cllr Mbatha reminded members that the General Manager: Water Services, in her presentation, had reported on the challenges affecting the boreholes. He then enquired whether the Municipality had developed a mitigation plan to address the challenges affecting the boreholes and further enquired on the anticipated timeframe for resolving the said matter.

Cllr Tenza welcomed the report and thereafter highlighted the following boreholes that were nonfunctional, namely:

- Ntombo Area 1 and 2;
- Madlala Ward 15;
- Dubisa Area in Ward 5;
- Izingolweni (Etshenilikwashoba) in Ward 30; and
- Slwane Area in Ward 15.

He then referred members to page 58 of the report, specifically to Item 56 and 57, and pointed out that the report incorrectly referenced the Mnafu area instead of the Mfazazane area. He further indicated that the status of the project should be amended to reflect that it was not yet complete.

The Speaker requested that members should submit the list of damaged boreholes directly to the General Manager: Water Services.

Cllr Mthethwa welcomed the report and commended Management for the significant improvement in water service delivery, particularly in the Northern areas. He further

reported a prevailing challenge with water supply in the Mandleni area in Ward 4 under the Umdoni Local Municipality.

He expressed concern that water was not reaching the area under the jurisdiction of Inkosi Duma, with a complete absence of the water supply, even though the deployment of water tankers. Furthermore, he highlighted that the KwaQwembe area remained without water, and that the water distribution network did not extend to the KwaQangqala area. He mentioned that the borehole installed at KwaQwembe area, located fifteen (15) kilometers from the main water system was unable to provide adequate water. He further reported that the last sighting of water trucks in the said area was in the month of April 2025.

He reported that there was no water in the Malangeni area, directly where the South African Police Services Satellite Office was situated and that there were notable improvements in the water provision within the Sqongweni area under Ward 20, as well as the Cothoza area.

Thereafter, he informed members that a reservoir was installed in Ward 2; however, same was never connected, which had resulted in the community having no access to water. He pointed out that the areas of Gwalagwala and Mageza had lacked water infrastructure and suggested that the Management should consider deploying water tankers as an interim measure.

He further raised a concern that the areas of Okhalweni and Swidi in Ward 25 under the jurisdiction of the Ray Nkonyeni Local Municipality, had not received water for the past three (03) years, although the said areas had standpipes.

Cllr JS Ngwane reminded members that the Municipal Manager had previously committed himself in addressing the shortage of municipal vehicles for plumbers. He then reported that, same resulted in five (05) vehicles being sourced from various Departments and allocated to the Water Services Department. He further commended the intervention implemented by Management to redeploy plumbers across different areas, noting that this initiative had yielded positive results.

Cllr Schmidt reported that the Gayridge area in Margate remained without water, despite the issue having been previously addressed. He mentioned that the plumbers had been on site and further advised that the Municipality had to consider another alternative approach to effectively mitigate the recurring problem.

Cllr Njenga sought clarity regarding the severity of vandalism and theft affecting municipal water infrastructure and enquired whether the Municipality had implemented any measures to mitigate the issue.

He then enquired about the long-term solutions that were considered to reduce the reliance on water tankers including improving the direct water supply using the municipal water infrastructure. He noted with concern that the areas under the Umdoni Local Municipality that were receiving water from eThekweni were experiencing ongoing water challenges and sought clarity on the measures the Municipality had implemented to address the said issue.

Inkosi Jali welcomed the report and pointed out that the borehole project was not completed at the Gugugweni area in Harding. He then mentioned that the area of KwaBhudlu did not have a borehole and had reported that there were only two (02) boreholes that were functional at the KwaMjika area as well as the Ngonyameni area.

He stressed concern that the report on the borehole was outdated and that same was raised with the previous Acting General Manager: Water Services, Mr S Malinga.

He also reported that the following areas under Ward 1 had no water infrastructure, namely:

- Sfoqo Area;
- Nkoneni Area
- Sdodini Location;
- Mthintanyoni Area;
- Duma Area in Ward 1;
- Gobotingo;
- Bozana 1 and 2 areas; and
- Nkulu area.

He informed members of a Dam that was in Ward 9 in the Ngele area, that was utilized by the community as a water source. He then suggested that the Municipality consider installing standpipes in the ward, noting that the dam was currently sitting at 95% capacity.

On the issue of boreholes, the General Manager: Water Services acknowledged and welcomed the proposed interventions to enhance water provision using boreholes. She then pointed out that it was imperative for the Municipality to engage proactively with both Political and the Traditional Leadership structures to mitigate and prevent the ongoing vandalism of municipal infrastructure.

Regarding the maintenance of boreholes, she indicated that there was no specific timeframe allocated for fixing the faulty boreholes. She mentioned that the said maintenance was undertaken on a reactive basis, as and when faults were reported. She further noted the need to improve turnaround times, particularly given that the Municipality had an internal team assigned to the said function.

On the issue of vandalism and theft of municipal infrastructure, she confirmed that there had been a significant improvement in the security of the municipal infrastructure with assistance of the internal Security Unit. She further reported a case in the Ezinqoleni area, where a community member was sentenced to fifteen (15) years' imprisonment for damaging municipal infrastructure.

Regarding the dependency on the use of water tankers, she reported that the Municipality was currently considering long-term projects aimed at ensuring adequate water supply and reducing the reliance on the use of water tankers.

On the issue of the water supply from Ethekwini to uMdoni areas, she explained that the Municipality had initiated engagements with the Senior Management from Ethekwini Municipality regarding the challenges affecting water provision in uMdoni. She further reported that follow-up meetings and ongoing engagements had been held to ensure improvements in the delivery of water services to the said area.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the Implementation of the Emergency Borehole Programme be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.
- (b) That the background on the shortage of water resources, water supply challenges and the need for production boreholes to supplement water supply be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (c) That the background and update on the Implementation of the Emergency Borehole Phase 1 funded by WSIG be **NOTED**.
- (d) That the background, and the current progress of the Implementation of the Emergency Borehole Phase 2 funded by MIG be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (e) That the Challenges faced by the Municipality due to vandalism and theft be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (f) That members be requested to submit the list of damaged boreholes directly to the General Manager: Water Services for further attention.

C 279/07/25

Ugu District Municipality- June 2025 Monthly Budget Statement

The Speaker took members through the report.

It was noted that the purpose of the report was to inform members of the Monthly Budget Statement for the month of June 2025, which was in compliance with Section 71 of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA).

Thereafter, Cllr Mthethwa moved for the acceptance of the recommendations and was seconded by Cllr Cele-Luthuli.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the Monthly Budget Statements for the month of June 2025 be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.
- (b) That the Monthly Budget Statements for the month of June 2025 be and is hereby **APPROVED**.
- (c) That the Monthly Budget Statements for the month of June 2025 and the supporting documents be submitted to both the Provincial and National Treasury in both electronic and hard copies.

C 280/07/25

SCM Monthly Performance Report: June 2025

The Speaker took members through the report.

It was noted that the purpose of the report was to inform members about the SCM Monthly Performance Report for June 2025.

It was further noted that the said report allowed Council to monitor and review the spending patterns within the Municipality effectively.

Thereafter, Cllr JS Ngwane moved for the acceptance of the recommendations and was seconded by Cllr Breedt.

Following which,

It was

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the SCM Monthly Performance Report for June 2025 be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.
- (b) That the SCM Monthly Performance Report for June 2025 be and is hereby **APPROVED**.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION FROM COMMITTEES

Extract from the Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 16 July 2025

Umgeni uThukela Water Annual Sports Tournament

The Speaker took members through the report.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the Umgeni uThukela Water Annual Sports Tournament be and is hereby **CONSIDERED**.
- (b) That the Umgeni uThukela Water Annual Sports Tournament be and is hereby **SUPPORTED**.
- (c) That the waiving of the Tariff of Charges fees for Umgeni-uThukela Water to host the Tournament be and is hereby **APPROVED**.
- (d) That the request for team Ugu to be assisted with the cost of accommodation, meals and transport for the Umgeni-Water Tournament from 26 to 27 July 2025 be and is hereby **APPROVED**.

MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

Minutes of the 46th Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 18 June 2025

The Speaker took members through the noting of the minutes of the 46th meeting of the Executive Committee held on 18 June 2025.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the 46th Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 18 June 2025 be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.

C 283/07/25

URGENT MATTERS

It was noted that there were none.

[At that stage of the proceedings, Cllr Henderson moved for the meeting to move in-committee and was seconded by Cllr Schmidt.]

IN-COMMITTEE MATTERS

C 284/07/25

Concurrence on the Appointment of the General Manager: Water Services

The Manager: Human Resources took members through the report.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the Concurrence by the CoGTA MEC on the Appointment of Dr LT Mwelase as the General Manager: Water Services be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.
- (b) That the ratification of the effective date for the General Manager: Water Services, Dr LT Mwelase to assume her duties from 01 July 2025, in line with the concurrence by the COGTA MEC which was approved on 25 June 2025 be and is hereby **APPROVED**.

C 285/07/25

Request for the Waiver of the General Manager: Water Services' Total Remuneration Package

The Manager: Human Resources took members through the report.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the request for the Waiver of the General Manager: Water Services' Total Remuneration Package be and is hereby **CONSIDERED** and **NOTED**.
- (b) That the waiver of the Total Remuneration Package for the Ugu District Municipality's General Manager: Water Services – Dr LT Mwelase be and is hereby **APPROVED**, and that she be paid at a midpoint remuneration package of R 1 528 180.00 instead of being paid at a minimum remuneration package of R 1 283 670.00.

- (c) That, His Worship, the Mayor be and is hereby **AUTHORISED** to make a submission to the COGTA MEC to consider the recommendations for assessment and submission to the COGTA Minister for reviewing the Total Remuneration Package for the Ugu District Municipality's – General Manager: Water Services – Dr LT Mwelase to be paid at midpoint remuneration package for the Senior Managers directly accountable to the Municipal Manager at a category to be determined by the Minister when assessing this application.

[At that stage of the proceedings, Cllr Mthethwa moved for the meeting to move out of committee and was seconded by Cllr Nciki].

C 28/07/25

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the date of the next meeting was scheduled for 28 August 2025.

C 287/07/25

CLOSURE

In closing, the Speaker expressed his gratitude to all present for their co-operation and participation in the meeting.

There being no further items for discussion, the Speaker declared the meeting closed at 12h40.

CHAIRPERSON:-----

DATE:-----