

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE CAPE TOWN REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY,
HELD VIRTUALLY ON WEDNESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2021 AT 15H00**

ATTENDANCE

As per the attendance register.

APOLOGIES

A number of apologies had been received, and those were recorded.

1. WELCOME

Ms Singh and Mr Zimmerman welcomed all members and honoured guests and declared the 218th Annual General Meeting of the Cape Chamber of Commerce, open.

2. AGENDA

Mr Peimer declared the AGM quorate. The Agenda was **CONFIRMED**.

Proposer: Mr Ntobeko Boyana
Secunder: Ms Kim Filies

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25th February 2021, which was circulated to all members, was duly **CONFIRMED** and signed.

Proposer: Mr Peter Haylett
Secunder: Mr Grant Whittaker

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Honorary Treasurer Mr Peter Ross reported on the audited Financial Statements for the Chamber's financial year ending 30 June 2021 as follows:

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen.

You would have all received copies of the Audited Financial statements. My presentation will be focusing on some of the highlights of the results.

Income received:

Subscriptions amounted to R6.4 million for the year, which was a significant reduction on the previous year of R7.3 million. This represents a 12% reduction. We all know what happened with the Covid epidemic and the Chamber, like many other businesses, has suffered a slight decline in revenues as a result of some

members not being able to renew their membership through financial constraints or hardships. That is the main reason for the reduction that we have seen this year on the first line.

Certification fees, these are revenue derived from the issuing of Certificates of Origin. The revenue amounted to R6.6 million compared to last year's R6.8 million. A reduction of only 2%. Fortunately, exports remain fairly buoyant during the 12 month period and we only saw a very small reduction.

Functions and seminars turned out very positive for the year. We recorded revenue of R1.1 million compared to last year's R976K, an increase of 18%. This was a result of the large number of functions that were held during the year. As we moved into online functions, we became more used to charging revenue for attendance. That was a good revenue earner for us during the year.

Other revenue, quite a big reduction of 84% and this mainly relates to the Chamber's old offices. We used to rent out rooms to members and other parties and we earned good revenue from that in the past but having terminated our lease in July 2020, this ceased to bring in significant revenue for us.

In total, our revenue for the year was R14.3 million compared to last year's R15.3 million, a reduction of R1 million or 7%.

Expenses incurred for the year:

Salaries and consulting fees amounted to R9.8 million compared to R9.2 million last year. An increase of 7%. This is definitely the Chamber's largest cost as it represents approximately 70% of our total costs. The figure did increase due to salary increases mostly during the course of the year.

Membership recruitment costs was reduced by 46%, mostly relating to a decline in membership recruitment and the commissions that were paid to Chamber staff on that recruitment.

Seminar and function costs came to R898K.

Postage and telephone – R334K. Quite a big increase on that line over last year, 46%. The reason being that the Chamber operated a virtual switchboard during the year. There was also an increase in cell phone usage during the year, and also the electronic bulk mailing which contributed to that cost.

Depreciation came down by 50% because of the write-off of quite a number of assets during the year.

Rent, as mentioned earlier, we did vacate our offices. We gave early notice on terminating office, which happened last July. The rental agreement only ceased in January 2021 but we were able to bring that termination forward but there was a termination fee. That is why we show rental costs for R338K versus the actual rental that we paid for the offices last year, R1.9 million. That came down a significant 82%. A major cost saving for us during this very difficult year, which was obviously done deliberately.

Other admin costs came down to R1.8 million and the total expenses incurred for the year was R13.7 million. Fortunately, a 10% reduction on last year's R15.2 million.

There was an operating surplus of R550K and if we add the interest and dividends that we receive from our investments of R192K, we ended off with a net surplus of R748K for the year, which does represent a slight improvement on last year of R532K.

It was a difficult year, but we were very happy to show an improved result bottom line.

Summary of the financial position:

Property, plant and equipment was R272K

Investments, a big number on our balance sheet, R28.3 million versus last year's R25.3 million. This represents ring-fenced funds for future property investment. The funds arising from the sale of our previous property was invested and those funds continue to grow every year and they have been ring-fenced. During the past year, as you can see, the investment increased by R3 million as a result of stock exchange movements and improvement in values of our investments.

Current assets was R2 million and total liabilities R3 million, so we ended off with net assets of R27.7 million.

As I mentioned, more details are in the detailed financial statements, which were distributed to you, and I now would like to ask anyone who has any questions to put them in the chat box during the commercial break, which we will have for the next minute or two.

"No questions were posted on the online chat in respect of the Financials".

Mr Ross called for the adoption of the Audited Financial Statements of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the period ending 30 June 2021. The Annual Financial Statements were duly **APPROVED**.

Proposer: Mr Richard von Hoesslin

Secunder: Mr Eric Leong Son

Ladies and gentlemen, it would be remiss of us for not to pay tribute to those who have lost their lives to the Covid-19 pandemic. We have lit a candle in remembrance of them and their families. Please let us take a moment of silence.

5. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Mr Ross reported that BDO SA Incorporated had played an integral role in the finalisation of the Cape Chamber's Financial Statements and had made significant contributions on the internal Audit and Risk committee.

Mr Ross called for the re-appointment of BDO SA Incorporated as the Chamber's auditors for the year ending 30th June 2022.

APPROVED.

Proposer: Ms Rabia Achmat
Seconder: Ms Natasha Wagiet

6. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The President Jacques Moolman delivered his presidential address as follows:

Good afternoon, Dignitaries, Past presidents, The Board, Council, Members, Consular corps, ladies and gentlemen. The Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry is in its 218th year, which makes it not only the oldest business Chamber on the African Continent, it makes it older even than the first Parliament of the Cape Colony.

I am proud of that, we should all be aware of our past, the difficulties we have overcome in our country and in business during the last two centuries, and what that means translated into the present Chamber values of Drive, Integrity, Respect, Innovation and Trust.

This past year has been a roller coaster ride for the private sector. At its beginning, it seemed the worst of the pandemic was over, but then came a third wave of infections. We were better prepared, and when the lock-down was tightened up, we in the private sector survived, proving once again that we are driven by customer service and profitability.

That we – as business - emerged from the third wave so well is in great measure due to our remarkable job of educating – and I dare say disciplining – our staff and customers to follow anti-Covid-19 protocols.

But what none of us were prepared for was the outbreak of lawlessness in Kwa-Zulu Natal, parts of Gauteng, and most dramatically in the Greater Durban area. We and our friends and trading partners in other countries watched aghast as scenes of mayhem were beamed into our homes. This, while our police were either absent or stood and watched as mobs systematically robbed and trashed stores, malls, banks, and warehouses. The only positive comment one can make is to praise the coming together of business and private citizens across the racial divide to prevent the disorder from spreading, and the relief that the rest of the country remained calm.

Then, in October, most Covid-19 restrictions were lifted, giving a glimmer of hope for the recovery of our battered economy.

Unfortunately, there were other shadows destined to fall on the private sector. These were legislative proposals to gather even more administrative power to the central government, prime among them the determination to allow confiscation of property without compensation.

Others were proposals to force publication of private sector executive pay and the use of empowerment rules in inappropriate circumstances.

While neither South Africa nor the world is yet free of the Covid-19 pandemic, there is a sense that the threat is ebbing. Vaccination programmes are being rolled out and economies are coming back to life.

Nevertheless, we will have to adjust to a post-pandemic world. The trauma of the past two years has been profound, but what is striking about South Africa is that so little has changed.

The hoped-for reform of the civil service at all levels of government and the rescue of many failing state-owned enterprises did not happen.

Not all was doom and gloom. After the devastating effect on South Africa's tourism industry caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, then the lockdowns imposed to fight its spread, we finally got a break.

It took six months to do it, but a locally funded campaign against the British ban on travel to our country was removed - with the Chamber making a direct appeal to the British Embassy, which I would like to think shows that our strong voice can still tip the scales when it matters.

If the tourism industry recovers, it can add R18 billion a year to Cape Town's economy and support more than 100 000 jobs.

The roller coaster continues but as the French saying goes, everything changes and yet everything stays the same. I would add: especially for entrepreneurs.

For these builders of wealth, the effort to survive is everywhere the same. It is a daily struggle to stay profitable, provide jobs, supply customers, and doing so despite officials who sometimes seem intent to slow progress rather than to regulate it in the public interest.

We trust that our new democratically elected councillors in our various municipalities will have backbones of steel, determination and steadfastness to achieve their promises of improved services throughout their districts.

I am delighted to report that our members are full of can-do spirit. It is reflected in our membership, which has grown, and in our revenues that are better than we expected due in no small measure to the sterling efforts of the Chamber staff.

Perhaps it is a sign of the beginning of a return to normality that while we have seen more one-on-one virtual meetings, in almost every case the hope was expressed for a return of personal meetings.

There are other positive signs. Agribusiness did well despite Covid. Members of the Chamber who changed their business plans dramatically are doing better than they did before the pandemic.

Those who understand the entrepreneurial spirit will not be surprised. The history of the Cape Chamber is full of examples.

At the AGM last year, I informed all members that a Constitutional review committee was convoked, they, with input from members, council, board and constitutional experts completed the mammoth task this year. Their mandate was to align the constitution with the Companies act, King IV, IoDSA principles and rectify other shortcomings that were identified previously by council into the updated constitution.

The draft was presented to the board, Advocate Brink who specializes in constitutional law, and finally to council who unanimously accepted the new version at a vote taken on the 8th of September. At each stage proposed changes were discussed and where necessary enacted. I would like to remind all members that the constitution is a living document and may require amendments from time to time and those can be enacted when necessary.

The last step of the process is for you as members to approve the new constitution as circulated with the notice to attend the AGM. The chat box will be used to carry out the vote. If you approve the new constitution, you do not need to do anything. If you are opposed to the proposed constitution, please type the word "oppose" into the chat box, should you wish to abstain, please type the word "abstain" into the chat box. BDO – independent auditors have been asked to count and verify the result, which will be announced as soon as it is completed.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee, the Board, Council and members for their active participation this past year, in particular those board members that will be stepping down at the AGM; Jeremy Marillier, Afsana Khan and Tilman von Zukowski whom for many years have given their time freely, with dedication and with the Chamber's best interests at heart. If I may ask them to join me on the podium.

Our portfolio and chapter committees also deserve applause. They drive advocacy and change in business, build relationships across industries and areas, and in a time of "virtual reality" organized successful, enlightening and developmental functions and networking events. I encourage all members to join these committees, where you will be able to rub shoulders with industry leaders, build new relationships and have your voice heard.

The Chamber team with Sid at the helm have once again shown its steel, living the Chamber Values of Drive, Integrity, Respect, Innovation and Trust under difficult circumstances. A special thank you to you, the Chamber management and team. The Chamber itself has survived many challenges in its 218 years. It has survived assaults on private enterprise more than once. It will survive the ones we face now.

Of that, I have no doubt.

Thank you

Mr Zimmerman called upon the Past President, Ms Janine Myburgh and Deputy President Ms Derryn Brigg to hand over a special award to the President, Mr Jacques Moolman.

Ms Myburgh, on behalf of the Board, Council and members, thanked the President for his driven dedication and commitment to the Chamber.

7. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ADDRESS

Mr Peimer delivered his Executive Director's address as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a bittersweet occasion for me – it is my last AGM after seven years at the helm. But since I completely embrace our slogan at the Chamber: which is “Where Opportunity Meets”, I approach the future – for myself and the organisation - with a great deal of excitement. I suppose we might as well be excited about the future, because that’s where we’re headed.

The world has changed dramatically. We were unceremoniously thrown into the 4th Industrial Revolution – ready or not. You could say that opportunity was forced on us. I felt the same at the start of my tenure – when I was given the challenge of managing this established and respected brand – and together with an amazing team, did the unexpected: stabilized and progressed a voluntary member-based organization, receiving the ultimate compliment along the way during an audit by a foreign agency where the auditor informed us that when another Chamber asks them what the best practice is, they tell them to talk to the Cape Chamber.

For those who attended our AGM last year, you may recall my unbridled optimism where I proclaimed that the anticipated loss of R1.5 million for the next financial year would be overcome. “But I have a secret weapon,” I stated with a flourish, “I have a team of exceptional individuals. And, I said: “we will not give up without a good clean, but tenacious fight”. As you can see in the financials, we did win the fight and eventually produced a R750 000 operating surplus. So, if you can’t predict the future, at least claim a positive prognosis.

Without the dedicated team of staff, stakeholders and members, this would not have been possible. For that, I am most grateful. In addition to the ‘secret weapon’ paying dividends, there is an underlying component for success – for both individuals and organizations. And that is social cohesion, and yes, I will now repeat the same statement that I make at every AGM: We have never been as technologically connected as we are today, yet we have never been as socially disconnected.

In short, humans just don’t live in groups, we live in networks. Although networking has its critics, formal business networking is significantly positively correlated with net asset and added value. Our inherited network such as family is important – if not crucial – but research shows that it is the bonds that we intentionally form that has a major impact on our wellbeing. The Chamber Team is fortunate to be at the centre of this credible and incredible network and it experiences the benefits daily. Perhaps that is why we are all so enamoured with this brand.

There are numerous benefits to members of the Chamber, and the primary challenge we have from a marketing perspective is conveying the exceptional value that we provide for the price of a packet of chips a day.

Our nine Portfolio Committees (that focus on sectors from Agriculture to Innovation) and our eight regional Chapter Committees (that focus on area-specific challenges) represent an enormously powerful resource for our members.

Our focused strategy remains engagement. Although we remained in lockdown during the period, we embraced the virtual world and held more than 250 events. I appreciate that face-to-face interaction offers a degree of contact that cannot be easily replicated online, but that is what we had to work with and we made the very best of it.

As for this past year, I must extend my sincere thanks to the staff, Board, Council, and of course, our members and stakeholders whose support since lockdown has never wavered.

As this is my 7th and last address, I would like to add a personal thank you to Jennifer whose support has been crucial to the enjoyment of my task. Then the other women who have always supported me through life: my wife Janine, my sister Mel and my mother Anne. But also that lady we should always be grateful for: and that is lady luck.

I wish everyone well and I assume that I will do what every long-term employee does when they leave the Chamber: and that is to become a member.

Thank you.

8. ADDRESS BY NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT

The newly elected President Mr Jacques Moolman delivered his presidential address as follows:

Members, I am honoured and humbled to have been re-elected President of the Cape Chamber of commerce and industry, I am looking forward to serving for a second term and promise to do so to the best of my ability.

As business, we are all looking forward to a year of opened economic activity, that our businesses may thrive and that the adversity of the past two years have made us resilient and stronger. The Chamber as an organization will carry on connecting, enabling and being the voice of business.

Our members and committees whom have increasingly been asking for in-person meetings and working space will be delighted that this may be possible as early as January 2022. The Chamber is in process of leasing a building in Century City and the details will be communicated once finalised.

Our Executive Director, Mr Sid Peimer's contract comes to an end at the end of February. Although we are not saying goodbye yet, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sid for 6 years of dedicated service to the Cape Chamber. Sid has led the team to new heights and the board and I wish him great success with his new ventures both in marriage and in business. We are reaching the final stages in appointing a new CEO and announcements in this regard will follow as soon as it is finalised.

If passed: The votes with regards to the New constitution have been counted and verified by BDO and I can announce that with a majority vote it has been passed by 75% of the members present and the resolution therefore carries.

If not passed: The votes with regards to the New constitution have been counted and verified by BDO. We were unable to achieve the required majority vote; the constitutional committee will therefore remain in place and endeavour to do further amendments until we are able to pass the resolution.

Our strategic priority to increase chamber membership value and opportunity, coupled with additional revenue streams which remains top of mind. Exciting projects such as the Brave Awards, City meets business and ESD project will not only assist and recognize our members but influence our coffers positively.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to introduce 2022 Council to you, without these members, working tirelessly and freely we would not achieve the results we do in this organisation:

The Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the Portfolio Committees

- Agribusiness: Grant Whittaker and Hillary Brinkhuis
- Economic and Finance: Amrish Bissoon and John Tshabalala
- Healthcare: Alana James
- Human Resources: Kim Filies and Thandi Mabena
- Industrial: Peter Haylett and Fulu Mphuthi
- Innovation and Technology: Rhomona Gounden
- International Trade and Tourism: Eric Leong Son and Jenni Vermaas
- Small Business Development: Diane Boorman and Nomfundo Calana
- Transport and Transport Infrastructure: Peter Hugo and Toto Ntsohi

The Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the Chapter Committees

- Athlone: Rabia Achmat and Rustim Ariefdien
- Cape Coast: Dan Snyder and Lee-Ann Viola
- Cape Town Central: Jenni Vermaas and Chris Voysey
- Helderberg: Amanda van der Merwe and Craig Austen
- Khayelitsha/Mitchells Plain: Ntobeko Boyana and Natasha Wagiet
- South Peninsula: Ncebakazi Mathanzima and Mary-Jean Thomas-Johnson
- Tygerberg: Jason Kruger and Rucien Petersen
- Winelands: Kosie de Villiers and Marianne Strydom

Representatives elected by the membership

- Rustim Ariefdien
- Nic Cronje
- Peter Haylett
- Trudi Hartzenberg
- Richard von Hoesslin
- Guy Whitcroft

Board elected members

- Farhana Paruk
- Marco Alfino

Recent Past Presidents of the Chamber

- Michael Bagraim
- Fred Jacobs
- Janine Myburgh
- Jeremy Wiley

The list of 2022 Council members were **APPROVED**.

Proposer: Mr Anand Bansee
Seconder: Ms Rolinda Schultz

I would like to introduce the Board whom have joined us in studio to you:

- Derryn Brigg – Deputy President and Chair of the Board ESD Committee.
- Peter Ross – Honorary Treasurer and Board Audit committee member.
- Janine Myburgh – Immediate Past President and IWEC representative.
- Diane Boorman – Chair of the Board Risk Management committee and Chair of the Small Business Portfolio committee.
- Paul Hartnady – Chair of the Board Finance and Investment committee.
- Naziema Jappie – Chair of the Board Remuneration committee.
- And our newest board member Thandi Mabena – Chair of the Board Social and Ethics committee.
- I would like to congratulate our new Board member, new Council members, Chairpersons and Vice chairpersons.

Our members have shown their confidence in you and I, by electing us to our respective roles and I look forward to working and serving with you.

I was recently reminded of a quote from Teddy Roosevelt. On hearing it, I immediately thought of our council and members who goes out and do what is necessary everyday - without fail:

It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself for a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat

The Chamber and its members will remain the "doer of deeds" it will strive to remain contemporary and relevant we will continue to offer an ever-wider range of services, including information, training, networking, trade facilitation, events and robust advocacy on behalf of you our members. I look forward to doing so - with you.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for attending the 2021 AGM I wish you a good evening.

9. CLOSURE

Ms Singh and Mr Zimmerman thanked members for joining the AGM and noted that hopefully it would be the Chamber's last virtual AGM and looking forward to seeing members in person at the next AGM. Mystery Brand Bag and all the partners were thanked for their support and contributions to the AGM gift bags. An appeal was made to members who wished to get involved in next year's gift bag to email, events@capechamber.co.za.

There being no further business for discussion, the Annual General meeting was declared closed at 16h10.

PRESIDENT

DATE