



# MINUTES

## 29th Annual General Meeting

**The South African Wood, Laminate & Flooring Association (SAWLFA)**

**Date:** 13 February 2026

**Time:** 11:00

**Venue:** Azura Distributors

### PRESENT:

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Amanda Geyer      | – JHB Chairman (In the Chair) |
| Sasha Kozinsky    | – JHB Vice-Chairman           |
| Nicholas Marchant | – JHB Vice-Chairman           |
| Andrew Kirkwood   | – JHB Executive Team          |
| Pasi Muzvidziwa   | – JHB Executive Team          |
| Morgan Reddy      | – JHB Executive Team          |
| Zahir Bham        | – JHB Executive Team          |
| Naas Prinsloo     | - JHB Executive Team          |
| Jay Muathlal      | - JHB Executive Team          |
| Neil Barnard      | - Cape Executive Team         |

### Members Present:

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Mark Bracher      | Gary Bothma       |
| Phillip Button    | Zacko Saliman     |
| Cisca Borchers    | Paul Van Deventer |
| Bernd De Smedt    | Eric Ward         |
| Peter Geyer       | Tumi Nemabali     |
| Conrad Van Vuuren | Petro Steyn       |
| Michelle Balfour  | Shane Reed        |
| Ruan Kraft        | Naseem Hassar     |
| Lorna Banda       | Jan Hofmeyer      |
| Marie Neetling    | Natasha Hamilton  |

### Appologies:

Sakkie Pretorius  
Madelein Smith

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs. L Van der Linden.

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## 1. Welcome and Quorum Confirmation

The Chairperson, **Amanda Geyer**, opened the meeting at 11:00 and welcomed all members present.

She stated:



“Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Amanda Geyer, and I am the Chairperson of The South African Wood, Laminate and Flooring Association. It is my pleasure to welcome you all to our 29th Annual General Meeting.”

The Chair confirmed that the required number of members were present in person and by proxy. A quorum being present, the meeting was duly constituted and declared open for business.

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## **2. Notice Convening the Meeting**

The Notice convening the meeting was confirmed as properly distributed to all members in accordance with the Association’s Constitution.

It was noted that certain members would need to leave the meeting at 12h00 due to prior commitments.

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## **3. Approval of Previous AGM Minutes**

The minutes of the previous AGM held on **14 February 2025** had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

The Chair asked that the minutes be taken as read.

No material corrections were raised.

### **Motion to approve the minutes:**

- Proposed by: **Morgan Reddy**
- Seconded by: **Sasha Kozinsky**

The Chair called for a vote.

All those in favour indicated accordingly.  
No objections were recorded.

**Resolution:** The minutes of the 14 February 2025 AGM were approved.

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## **4. Chairperson’s Report**

### **4.1 Financial Report**



The audited financial statements for the past fiscal year, including the Balance Sheet and Income Statement, were presented to members.

### Detailed Income Statement

| Figures in Rand                  | Note(s) | 2025             | 2024             |
|----------------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>                   |         |                  |                  |
| Rendering of services            |         | 193,119          | 165,043          |
| Membership fees                  |         | 338,935          | 348,858          |
| Other sales income               |         | 9,650            | 7,988            |
|                                  | 6       | <b>541,704</b>   | <b>521,889</b>   |
| <b>Operating expenses</b>        |         |                  |                  |
| Accounting fees                  |         | (9,600)          | (5,000)          |
| Advertising                      |         | (53,055)         | (50,115)         |
| Bank charges                     |         | (1,814)          | (3,685)          |
| Catering expenses                |         | (5,015)          | (7,197)          |
| Computer expenses                |         | (3,850)          | (3,548)          |
| Employee costs                   |         | (328,901)        | (335,799)        |
| Inspections                      |         | (128,486)        | (77,887)         |
| Insurance                        |         | (1,921)          | (1,195)          |
| Lease rentals on operating lease |         | -                | (500)            |
| Repairs and maintenance          |         | -                | (16,873)         |
| Telephone and fax                |         | (5,350)          | (4,658)          |
| Training                         |         | -                | (4,125)          |
| Travel - local                   |         | (10,178)         | (12,963)         |
|                                  |         | <b>(548,170)</b> | <b>(523,545)</b> |
| <b>Operating loss</b>            |         | <b>(6,466)</b>   | <b>(1,656)</b>   |
| Investment income                | 7       | 10,395           | 9,567            |
| <b>Profit for the year</b>       |         | <b>3,929</b>     | <b>7,911</b>     |

The Association remains financially stable, with continued focus on cost efficiency and sustainability.

The transition away from permanent staff inspectors and external office rental in Bedfordview has significantly reduced overhead costs and strengthened long-term financial sustainability.

The financial statements were accepted by the members.

### Membership & Activity Overview

**Liza van der Linden** presented an overview of the Association's membership and recent activity.

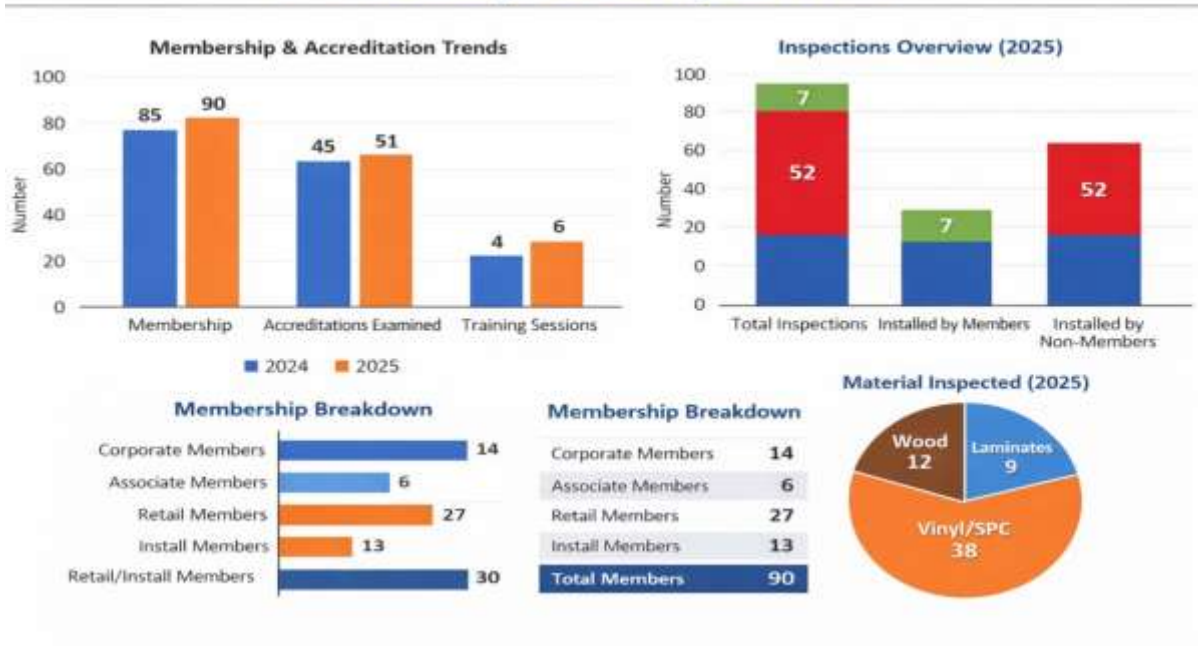
Key points included:

- Total membership and category breakdown were reviewed.
- **Vinyl flooring**, particularly **SPC (Stone Plastic Composite)**, was highlighted as the most inspected product by far.
- Training and accreditation efforts will focus heavily on vinyl/SPC to ensure members are competent and up-to-date with industry best practices in this area.

This overview emphasised the Association's continued commitment to aligning training, inspections, and support with the practical needs of members and the broader flooring industry.



## Membership & Activity Overview



## 4.2 Recognition and Appreciation

### Retirement

The Association formally acknowledged the retirement of **Naas Prinsloo**, thanking him for his longstanding service and contribution to the industry.

### Inspectors

Sincere appreciation was extended to the Association's inspectors:

- Peter Geyer
- Mark Bracher
- Sakkie Pretorius
- Johan Smit
- Andy Du Toit
- Dave Waddy
- Neil Barnard

Their expertise, dedication, and voluntary contribution remain integral to maintaining the Association's standards and credibility.

### Corporate Support

The Chair expressed deep gratitude to the Association's corporate members for their generosity in:



- Providing access to facilities
- Making managers and specialists available
- Contributing time, vehicles, and operational support

This collaborative spirit has enabled the Association to streamline operations, eliminate unnecessary overheads, and ensure continued sustainability.

Special thanks were extended to Azura and Likewise for their ongoing generosity and assistance.

### **Acknowledgement of Liza van der Linden**

A special note of appreciation was extended to **Liza van der Linden** for her dedication, industry knowledge, and tireless support of members. Her role in facilitating collaboration and connecting members across various specialisations was formally acknowledged and appreciated.

The Chair highlighted the spirit of camaraderie within the Association, noting how competitors supported one another throughout the past year for the benefit of the industry as a whole.

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### **4.3 Expansion of Scope – Additional Flooring Categories**

The Chair reported on progress in broadening the scope of the Association to include additional flooring categories.

Both Belgotex and Floornet have expressed interest in collaborating with the Association, particularly in the areas of training and accreditation.

This development represents a significant step in strengthening industry alignment and expanding the Association's offering.

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### **4.4 Expansion into Zimbabwe**

Discussions are currently underway regarding expansion into **Zimbabwe**.

**Eva-Last**, which is expanding its footprint into Zimbabwe, has approached the Association to assist in establishing a similar industry structure there.

During discussion, **Sasha Kozinsky** suggested that the Association should also explore the possibility of expansion into **Namibia**, to extend industry support and collaboration to additional neighbouring markets.

Members with operations in Zimbabwe or Namibia were invited to engage with Liza to support these initiatives and connect with the relevant stakeholders for establishment and development of industry structures in these regions.



## 4.6 Governance and Compliance

### Health & Safety Regulations

The Chair addressed developments relating to the **new Construction Regulations for 2026**.

It was noted that the draft regulations reached acceptance stage in June 2025, and the industry is currently awaiting formal publication. These regulations will replace the existing Construction Regulations of 2014.

The new framework introduces:

- Stricter safety measures
- Increased accountability for clients and designers
- Mandatory detailed pre-construction information
- Enhanced competency requirements for on-site personnel

While these standards align with SANS building regulations, they now codify what was previously considered industry best practice into enforceable law across all South African construction sites. The emphasis is on proactive risk management and clear legal accountability.

### Implications for the Flooring Industry

For the flooring sector, this means:

- Ensuring that all personnel handling specialised equipment, machinery, or hazardous materials (such as certain adhesives or legacy lead-based products) have verified training and demonstrated competency.
- Maintaining proper documentation and compliance records.

Although insurance companies do not legally require flooring installers to belong to an industry association, there is a clear shift in the market. Main contractors, sub-contractors, and insurers are increasingly requiring formal proof of:

- Competency
- Quality workmanship
- Compliance with safety and technical standards

Membership of the South African Wood, Laminate & Flooring Association (SAWLFA), together with installer accreditation, is widely recognised as credible evidence of competency and is frequently preferred when appointing or retaining installers and subcontractors, particularly for insurance panel work.

### Important Clarification

It was emphasised that:



- A certificate of membership to SAWLFA confirms that a company is a member of the professional body.
- It does **not** automatically mean that every individual fitter within that company is accredited.

Accredited fitters must meet specific technical and practical criteria beyond basic membership. Ensuring that individual installers are appropriately accredited remains the responsibility of each member company in relation to its clients.

Members were informed that additional training and accreditation dates can be arranged on demand to accommodate requirements.

Liza is available to assist members with:

- Health & Safety file guidelines
- A structured compliance package
- The SAWLFA Flooring Compliance Checklist

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## Non-Profit Governance

The Chair further reported that although the Association is experiencing positive fiscal growth, revenue remains within the thresholds defined for Non-Profit governance.

This ensures that any surplus generated is reinvested directly back into the industry to strengthen training, accreditation, and member support initiatives.

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## 4.5 Open Forum / Q&A

Members were invited to raise questions, propose new business, and offer feedback.

- **Mark Bracher** asked whether **power tool competency** should become part of the SAWLFA installer accreditation.
- **Morgan Reddy** responded that some companies currently provide power tool competency training. He noted that this could be investigated further; however, manufacturers themselves do not offer such training, so any formal accreditation would need to be organised independently and would likely involve additional costs.
- **Mark Bracher** also commented that the current training is too basic and should be more advanced.
- **Liza van der Linden** stated that she has already discussed this with the Cape Town trainer and that they will collaborate with the Executive Team to develop more advanced training modules for members.
- **Mark Bracher** further commented that the current training is too basic and should be more advanced.



- **Liza van der Linden** confirmed that she has already discussed this with the Cape Town trainer and that they will collaborate with the Executive Team to develop more advanced training modules for members.
- **Pasi Muzvidziva** acknowledged that he will take responsibility for upgrading the training boxes.
- **Sasha Kozinsky** requested that the upgrades be completed within one month.
- **Mark Bracher** offered his assistance in supporting the improvement of the training boxes.

It was agreed that any matters requiring further research or clarification would be addressed in the next newsletter for broader member communication, where appropriate.

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## 5. Dissolution of Current Executive Committee

In accordance with the Constitution, the term of the current Executive Committee had concluded.

The Chair declared all Executive positions, including her own, vacant.

To ensure neutrality and transparency, **Naas Prinsloo** was invited to act as Returning Officer to oversee the election process.

The outgoing Executive Committee vacated the head table and took seats among the members. The Returning Officer assumed temporary control of proceedings.

It was confirmed that only fully paid-up members were entitled to one vote per organisation/retailer.

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## 6. Verification of Candidates

The Returning Officer confirmed receipt of the following nominations submitted prior to the meeting:

- Sasha Kozinsky
- Zahir Bham
- Morgan Reddy
- Nicholas Merchant
- Andrew Kirkwood
- Pasi Muzvidziva
- Neil Barnard (Cape Town)
- Sakkie Pretorius (Kwa-Zulu Natal)
- Jay Muathlal
- Amanda Geyer
- Natasha Hamilton
- Marie Neetling
- Philip Button



The floor was opened for additional nominations.  
Eric Ward nominated Shane Reed on behalf of Floornet.

By show of hands, each nominee confirmed willingness to serve.

The Executive nominees resumed seating at the front, and online executives were acknowledged.

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## 7. Election of Chairperson

The Returning Officer opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair for the coming year.

- Amanda Geyer was proposed by Andrew Kirkwood.
- The nominee accepted the nomination.
- The nomination was seconded by Pasi Muzvidziva

No Additional Nominees was received

As single nominee were presented:

- The nominee was declared elected by acclamation.

### **Result:**

It was announced that Amanda Geyer will serve as Chair of the Association for the coming year.

**Amanda Geyer** then addressed the members, thanking them for their support and committing to continued leadership and service for the Association in the coming year.

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## 8. Closure

There being no further business, Amanda Geyer formally closed the meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at: 11:45**

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**Signed:**

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Chairperson

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Secretary



# SAWLFA

Flooring Association

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