

Mayor takes pity on stranded EPWP workers

By TEMBILE SGQOLANA

ENOCH Mgijima local municipality mayor Lindiwe Gunuza-Nkwentsha took money out of her own pocket yesterday to help more than 100 stranded expanded public works programme (EPWP) workers.

They were sleeping on the pavement at the Komani Post Office after their salaries were held up due to computers being offline.

Gunuza-Nkwentsha arranged for

the workers to sleep in the Komani City Hall and spent her money buying food and toiletries for them.

She was alerted by community members who said over 100 people had slept along Cathcart Road near the Post Office on Tuesday night.

“I came here at 10pm to check and saw old people sleeping on the street. This was not right. I decided to arrange the Komani City Hall for them to sleep in,” she said.

Nkwentsha said people had bor-

rowed money to come to Komani hoping to repay it on returning.

“We must have a meeting with the department of public works and the Post Office to come up with a solution to this,” she said.

Provincial public works spokesman Mphumzi Zuzile apologised on behalf of the department to those who did not get their salaries yesterday.

“The department has discovered that the problem lies with the Post

Office. They had a network problem which affected four post offices in the Eastern Cape,” he said.

On the subject of the Post Office cards that are not working, Zuzile said they were working with the Post Office to ensure all EPWP workers could use Post Bank cards.

Post Office spokesman Johan Kruger had not responded to questions Daily Dispatch sent to him on the matter by print deadline. —

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