

OR Tambo mayor outlines 2018/19 financial year

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OR Tambo District Mayor, Nomakhosazana Meth, held a media briefing to outline the 2018/2019 first quarter of the financial year (July to September), at the Savoy Hotel in Mthatha last week Wednesday.

Meth said the municipality had managed to achieve the majority of their targets in improving the economy of the OR Tambo region.

“We have managed to provide environmental education, with schools giving awards to the best performing learners in August, while also supporting people who are doing art, as we held a national art festival on June 28, exposing local talent to the market, being able to export their work.”

She said they’d also supported Mthatha bikers in developing the economy of the municipality.

She said in supporting agri-parks, the municipality had established what they

called hydroponic channels in helping OR Tambo farmers to be able to produce and export food to other countries.

“We have started to do due diligence, where we hire a service provider who will do a feasibility study on how to implement these hydroponic channels, as we all know that last financial year we budgeted over R14 million for agri-parks and this financial year we budgeted R10 million, and we have started doing that job in delivering primary agriculture.

“We are hoping that when President Cyril Ramaphosa visits OR Tambo District municipality on Sunday, December 16, for Reconciliation Day, we will be able to launch a 430 hectares of land, farming next to Mthatha Dam and in that agricultural project we have attracted partners from outside South Africa, like Argentina,” she said.

“On that day we will be signing the Social Charter in the national Expanded Public Works programme. We have managed to create thousands of job opportu-

nities and I want to highlight that there is a lot of money that we are owed by the community of OR Tambo, private institutions, government institutions and NGOs,” said Meth.

Meth said there was about R600 million owed by these institutions. She added that the municipality had achieved most of its targets, which included bringing water and electricity and building houses and toilets for the people.

Meanwhile Deputy Mayor Robert Nogumla said people should hold officials accountable in their jobs.

“We came to give feedback to the people about service delivery.

“The OR Tambo community mandated us to work for them, so we now came here to tell them what we have achieved and how we can we improve on some of the things we failed to do.

“We have worked very hard to make this district and its municipalities the best and also to deliver basic services to the people,” said Nogumla.