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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY18th MARCH 2024 AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms Julia Crouch

The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development & Investment and Health, Dr Ellis Webster

The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Perin Bradley

The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services.

Ms Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers

The Honourable Minister for Home Affairs, Immigration, Labour, Human Rights, Constitutional Affairs, Information and Broadcasting, Lands and Physical Planning, Mr Kenneth Hodge

The Honourable Minister for Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing and Tourism, Mr Haydn Hughes

The Honourable Minister of Sustainability, Innovation and Environment, Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie

The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford

Clerk to Executive Council, Ms Dumisa Webster

IN ATTENDANCE: The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson

Financial Advisor, Mr. Evarist Mwesigye

EX MIN 24/064

EX MEMO 24/43 Department of Health Services Bill 2024

The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Advisor remained.

The following persons joined the meeting:

Mrs Kathleen Rogers, PS, Finance
Ms Marissa Harding-Hodge, PAS, Finance
Mrs Jacqueline Bryan-Niles, Acting PS, Health
Ms Rochelle Bryan, Budget Officer
Ms Rochelle Rogers, Health Planner
Ms Serena Connor, Senior Parliamentary Counsel

The Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance and Health and PAS, Finance briefed Council. Executive Council Meeting Minute Ex Min, 22/211, approved the Ministry of Health minute approved the terms of reference for the Health Services Reform Committee (HSRC) of the Ministry of Health to provide recommendations to the Ministry on how most suitable to merge the Health Authority of Anguilla (HAA) into the Ministry of Health. In line with the directions in the minutes, the Department of Health Services (DHS) Bill dissolves the HAA and integrates the majority of the HAA functions within the Department of Health. The responsibilities and administrative structures are now the responsibility of the Department of Health. The Bill also allows for the appointment of Health Services Commissioner, who will serve as the administrative head of the DHS.

The incorporation of the Health Authority of Anguilla into the central government as a department necessitates a supplementary budget to cover both the supported and unsupported expenditures relative to revenue expected from medical and ancillary services. The projected revenue that the HAA will collect in 2024 following integration into the central government is EC \$10.9 million. The estimated recurrent expenditure for the HAA following integration for three quarters is EC 27.98 million. Out of this, EC 15.36 million is allocated for Personal Expenditure (PE) for the same period. However, this figure may be subject to adjustments as as some PE expenditures are still being finalized. The total recurrent shortfall for the three quarters is calculated at EC 17.1 million. To address this deficit, the remaining subvention of approximately EC 16.5 million

will be transferred to the new department. There will then be a shortfall of EC 0.632 million, which will require additional funding through the supplementary budget.

Capital expenditures necessitates an additional EC 1.27 million which supplements the already budgeted EC 263K, bringing the government's total increased fiscal responsibility to EC 1.9 million to facilitate this transition. This capital expenditure is necessary for the improvement of efficiency within the hospital/ Department of Health Services.

The Capital Expenditure Breakdown is as follows:

1) MRI UNIT Commissioning: USD 100,000

This is critical for enhanced diagnostic capabilities.

2) UPS for Critical Branch: USD 170,000

This is essential for the uninterrupted operation of Laboratory and Operating Theater Equipment

3) Hospital Beds: USD 150,000

The acquisition of 16 regular beds and 1 operating bed is deemed critical for 2024.

4) Morgue: USD 150,000

Council approved the urgent publishing of the Bill and presentation in the House of Assembly for the first reading to allow for the Act to commence on 1st April 2024.

Council authorized the release of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; PS, HEALTH; HON AG; HON PREM.

EX MIN 24/065

EX MEMO 24/44 Draft Integration of Registry into Financial Services Commission (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2024

The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Advisor remained.

Ex Min 23/294 notes Executive Council's approval of the merging of the Registry into the AFSC and the formation of a "Project Team" for the facilitation of information sharing and to ensure the successful implementation of the integration plan effective, 1 January 2024. However, this date proved to be impossible and the newly proposed date is 2nd April 2024.

Ex Min 24/053 notes that Executive Council approved the draft Financial Services Commission (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act with amendments to Section 7 in particular:

- (a) that the policy state that persons who elected to leave the AFSC will not receive a state pension at the point of departure but be treated for those purposes as if they have resigned rather than retired
- (b) to clarify that "suitable alternative" is suitable as determined by the Deputy Governor; and
- (c) To clarify that if no suitable alternative is available at the point of election the duty to provide alternative employment within the Public Service ceases.
- (d) The Hon Attorney General was to provide wording for the same.

The aforementioned amendments were made to the Integration of Registry Into Financial Services Commission (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2024.

Council:

 Noted that the Honourable Attorney General is to make further amendments to section 7 of the Integration of Registry Into Financial Services Commission (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2024. 2) Noted that further ExCo consideration is needed before the draft Integration of Registry Into Financial Services Commission (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2024 can be approved. Approval to be granted once the Attorney General has redrafted section 7.

Council authorized the release of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

Action: PS, FIN, PAS, FIN, HON AG, HON PREM.

EX MIN 24/066

EX MEMO 24/45 Approval of the Bill Department of Water Services Act, 2024

The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary and Financial Advisor remained.

The following persons joined the meeting:

Mr. Karim Hodge, PS, MICUHT

Mr. Travis Carty, Director of Public Utilities

The Honourable Minister for Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing and Tourism briefed council. Ex Min 22/331 notes the approval of a phased approach to reintegrate the water services delivered by the Water Corporation of Anguilla (WCA) into central government. Ex Min 23/385 notes the approval of the organizational structure for the reintegration of water services delivered by the WCA into central government. The Bill, Department of Water Services Act, 2024, functions to transfer the management and operation of the piped water system in the statutory corporation called Water Corporation of Anguilla to the Department of Water Services (DWS) of the Government of Anguilla under the Ministry responsible for utilities and waterworks.

The WCA/ DWS is forecasted to collect revenues of EC 7.5 million in 2024, of which EC 5.6 million is expected post-integration. The anticipated recurrent expenditure for the DWS, upon becoming a government entity for three quarters, is projected at EC 15.6 million. The total recurrent expenditure for the year stands at EC 15.56 million, leading to a recurrent shortfall of EC 9.9 million. This deficit will be partially mitigated by reallocating the remainder of the subvention, approximately

EC 7.7 million to the new department, leaving an uncovered balance of EC 2.16 million, which will necessitate additional funding through the supplementary budget.

Council:

- 1) Approved the urgent publishing of the Bill for the Department of Water Services Act and presentation in the House of Assembly for the first reading to allow for the Act to commence on 1st April 2024.
- 2) Approved bringing the Bill for the establishment of the Department of Water Services Act into force on 1st April 2024.

Council authorized the issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes

Action: PS, MICUH&T, HON MIN, MICUH&T, HON AG.
