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**MINUTES OF THE 210TH MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2024 AT 8.00 AM**

PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms. Julia Crouch

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

The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr. Perin Bradley

The Honourable Minister of Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education, and Library Services, Ms. Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers

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

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

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

The Honourable Attorney General, Mr. Kurt De Freitas KC

Clerk to Executive Council, Ms. Dumisa Webster

IN ATTENDANCE: The Honorable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Merrick Richardson

Head of Governor's Office, Mr. Orlando Ames-Lewis

EX MIN 24/348

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Executive Council held on Tuesday, 3rd December 2024 and 209th Meeting of the Executive Council held on Thursday, 5th December 2024.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None.

EX MIN 24/349

EX MEMO 24/255 2025 Statutory Body Budgets- Anguilla Financial Services Commission ("AFSC")

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office remained.

The following persons joined the meeting:

Rhina Meade, Permanent Secretary (Ag.), Ministry of Finance (Ag.)

Solange Lloyd-Browne, Director of Finance, Ministry of Finance

Tina Bryan, Director, AFSC

Jacqueline Sergeant, Head of Finance, AFSC

Ralph Hodge, Chairman of the AFSC Board

Council was presented with an outline of the AFSC's planned 2025 budget, which highlights the figures for inter alia, anticipated revenue, recurrent expenditure and capital expenditure. It was noted that the AFSC's 2025 budget is a combined budget that includes the Commission's regulatory activities as well as the Commercial Registry's operational and financial activities. The Commercial Registry was integrated into the AFSC on June 1, 2024. There are significant differences between the 2024 Approved Budget, Forecasted Outturn and the 2025 budget for the AFSC and this is due primarily to the Commercial Registry's revenue and expenditures being accounted for only a 7-month period in 2024. Whereas, the 2025 estimates encompass the full year's financial performance and projections for modest growth.

The 2025 budget of the AFSC notes:

- a. Anticipated Revenue of EC\$8.3M which is 46% higher than the 2024 approved budget and 65% higher than the forecast outturn. This increase is due to the expected increase in Registry Fees.
- b. Recurrent Expenditure of EC\$7.3M which represents a significant increase compared to the 2024 budget and actuals. This increase is driven by several factors including increased personnel costs associated with the Registry integration.
- c. Capital Expenditure is projected to be EC\$1M. This figure is inclusive of, inter alia, an update to the Commercial Registry Electronic System.

Executive Council:

1. Noted and approved the planned 2025 Budget of the Anguilla Financial Services Commission, as outlined in the memorandum and presentation provided to Council; and
2. Instructed the Anguilla Financial Services Commission to submit their quarterly reports to the Ministry of Finance no later than one month after the conclusion of each quarter to ensure compliance with statutory obligations.

Council authorised issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

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

EX MIN 24/350

EX MEMO 24/256 Application for Duty Exemption for New Anglia University Ltd.

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office.

Executive Council was briefed by the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance on the application for duty-free concessions by New Anglia University Ltd. It was noted that New Anglia University Ltd's request for customs exemption aligns with the Customs Duty

Exemption Policy of 1998. Additionally, New Anglia University Ltd. and the Government of Anguilla have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding, under which the concessions for waiver of customs duties, as requested is to be granted. It was noted that the Customs Department has indicated that several of the items, including suture kits and books, requested for duty-free concessions, should not benefit from the concession. However, Executive Council noted that these items should benefit from the customs exemption, as they will be used directly to facilitate the medical education services provided by the applicant.

Executive Council approved the application for duty-free concessions by New Anglia University Ltd. for the total amount of all items listed in the Customs Duty Loss Calculation table submitted to Council.

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

EX MIN 24/351

EX MEMO 24/257 Cost of Living Support- Exemptions from Customs Duty and Tax for Essential Items

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office.

The Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance briefed Council on the proposed regulations. It was noted that in order to assist households in the purchase of essential items against the financial implications of external pressures, Council previously removed the duty and tax on these essential items to make them more affordable for lower-income consumers from April 2022 to December 31st 2024. It is proposed that this exemption in respect of the Import Customs Duty and Customs Administrative Costs Fee be extended until December 31st 2025 due to continuing inflationary pressures.

Executive Council:

1. Approved the extension of the current exemption on essential food items until 31st December 2025 for Import Customs Duty and administrative fees;
2. Approved the Customs (Exemption of Customs Duties on Food Items) Regulations, 2024 to give effect to same; and

3. Approved the Customs Administrative Costs Recovery (Exemption) Regulations, 2024.

Council authorised issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

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

EX MIN 24/352

EX MEMO 24/258 Appointment of the Albena Lake-Hodge Comprehensive School (“ALHCS”) Board of Governors (“BoG”)
 Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor’s Office.

The Honourable Minister of Social Development and Education briefed Council on the request for appointment of the ALHCS Board of Governors. Section 37 and Section 38 of the Education Act empower the Minister of Education to establish, by written notice published in the Gazette, a Governing Board for a public secondary school and further details the functions of the same.

It is proposed that the new Board of Governors be established with members as following:

- a) Expert in Education: Mrs. Ingrid Lake
- b) Religious Leader: Mr. Lindsay K. Richardson
- c) Expertise in Business: Mr. Chris Richardson
- d) Expertise in Law: Ms. Merline Barrett
- e) Parent representative to be chosen by the Parent-Teacher Association (TBA)
- f) Student Representative chosen by the Student Council: Miss Senaiya Richardson
- g) Staff Representative chosen by school staff: Mr. Dwayne Adams

It is also proposed that monthly compensation for Board members be approved as follows:

Position	Remuneration
Chairperson	EC\$900
Deputy Chairperson	EC\$800

Secretary	EC\$750
Members	EC\$700

Executive Council:

1) Approved the membership of the Albena Lake-Hodge Comprehensive School Board of Governors as follows:

- a) Expert in Education: Mrs. Ingrid Lake
- b) Religious Leader: Mr. Lindsay K. Richardson
- c) Expertise in Business: Mr. Chris Richardson
- d) Expertise in Law: Ms. Merline Barrett
- e) Parent representative to be chosen by the Parent-Teacher Association (TBA)
- f) Student Representative chosen by the Student Council: Miss Senaiya Richardson
- g) Staff Representative chosen by school staff: Mr. Dwayne Adams

2) Approved compensation for Board members as follows:

Position	Remuneration
Chairperson	EC\$900
Deputy Chairperson	EC\$800
Secretary	EC\$750
Members	EC\$700

Council authorised issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

Action: PS; EDSD; HON MIN, EDSD.

EX MIN 24/353

EX MEMO 24/259 Appointment of Members of the Anguilla Community College's (ACC) Board of Governors

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office.

The Honourable Minister of Education and Social Development briefed Council on the proposal for appointment of the ACC's Board of Governors. The Anguilla Community College Act provides for the

establishment, composition and appointment of a Board of Governors for the ACC. It was noted that tenure for the following two persons has not yet expired:

- a) Information Technology Specialist: Delon Skellekie; and
- b) Cherecia Lewis Rogers: Marketing Specialist

It is requested that Board membership for the following persons be approved:

- a) Expertise in Law: Michael Bourne (returning member)
- b) Experience in Finance: Leah Hughes
- c) Experience in Tertiary Level Instruction: Jocelyn Johnson
- d) Experience in Finance: Jacqueline Sergeant
- e) Expertise in Education: Tricia Richardson

Executive Council:

- 1) Approved the proposed Board of Governors for the Anguilla Community College as follows:
 - a) Expertise in Law: Michael Bourne (returning member);
 - b) Experience in Finance: Leah Hughes;
 - c) Experience in Tertiary Level Instruction: Jocelyn Johnson;
 - d) Experience in Finance: Jacqueline Sergeant; and
 - e) Expertise in Education: Tricia Richardson
- 2) Noted that the tenure for the following members has not yet expired:
 - a) Delon Skellekie
 - b) Cherecia Lewis Rogers
- 3) Noted that at maximum membership, the Anguilla Community College Board of Governors attracts stipends totalling EC\$14,650.00 monthly.

Council authorised issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

Action: PS; EDSO; HON MIN, EDSO.

EX MIN 24/354

EX MEMO 24/260 Amendment to the Elections Registration Regulations 2024 to allow for an Increase in the Allowance Paid to Electoral Officers

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office.

The Honourable Minister of Home Affairs with responsibility for Constitutional Affairs briefed Council. The Elections Act stipulates the conduct and remuneration of Electoral Officers. Currently Electoral Officers are only paid for work done on Election Day Polls and not work done on Advanced Day Polls.

For work done on Election Day Polls electoral officers are paid:

- a) Returning Officer: \$EC1125.00
- b) Presiding Officer: \$EC1050.00
- c) Poll Clerk: \$EC600.00

It is proposed that Electoral officers be paid an additional 50% of Election Day Polls remuneration for work done on Advanced Day Polls.

Executive Council:

- 1) Approved the remuneration of Electoral Officers at an additional 50% more of the original rates for work done on the first Advanced Day Polls as follows:
 - a) Returning Officer: \$EC1687.50;
 - b) Presiding Officer: \$1575.00;
 - c) Poll Clerk: \$EC900.00
- 2) Considered and approved the Elections Registration (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations to allow for an increase in the allowance paid to Electoral Officers as outlined in Point 1) above; and
- 3) Noted that the Governor will sign foregoing Regulations and the same will be published in the Gazette.

Council authorised issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

Action: PS; HA; HON MIN; HA.

EX MIN 24/355

EX MEMO 24/261 Application for Issue of Licence under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act- XXXXXXXXXXXX - Registration Section: Cauls Pond, Block 69015 B, Parcels 338 and 339 being 0.19 of an Acre per parcel for a total of 0.38 of an Acre

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office.

The Minister of Home Affairs and Lands briefed Council on the application. Executive Council approved the granting of an Aliens Land Holding Licence to **XXXXXXXXXXXX** to hold on a freehold basis, two (2) vacant properties situated in Registration Section: Cauls Pond, Block 69015 B, described as Parcels 338 and 339 being 0.19 of an acre each for a total of 0.38 of an acre, located at Cauls Pond, Anguilla for residential purposes, subject to the following:

a) Payment of the following Stamp Duties:

OPTION B IF WAIVERS ARE GRANTED

PARCEL 338

(i)	under the Stamp Act – 5% of EC\$36,962.75	EC\$1,848.14
(ii)	under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – 6.25% of EC\$36,962.75	Waived
(iii)	refundable deposit – 10% of EC\$ 36,962.75	<u>Waived</u>
	TOTAL	<u>EC\$1,848.14</u>

PARCEL 339

(i) under the Stamp Act – 5%

	of EC\$36,962.75	EC\$1,848.14
(ii)	under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – 6.25% of EC\$36,962.75	Waived
(iii)	refundable deposit – 10% of EC\$ 36,962.75	<u>Waived</u>
	TOTAL	<u>EC\$1,848.14</u>
	GRAND TOTAL	<u>EC\$3,696.28</u>

- b) The property must be used for residential purposes.
- c) Regulations to be issued by the Attorney General Chambers.
- d) **XXXXXXXXXX** be granted an exemption from the Aliens Land Holding Licence Regulation Act fee and refundable deposit, on the grounds that Executive Council Minute 03/224 and the policy on exemption from fees payable by Caribbean Nationals (attached at Appendix 3 and 4) approving the waiver.
- e) The Licencee must not rent their dwelling house without first notifying the Economic Development, Investment, Commerce, Information Technology & Natural Resources in order to rent the said property.
- f) The Licensee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla in force from time to time including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Labour Relations Act 2018 and Work Permit Regulations, the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made there under.

Council authorised issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

Action: DLS; PS, HA; HON MIN, HA.

EX MIN 24/357

EX MEMO 24/263 Application for Issue of Licence under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act- XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XX Registration Section South East, Block 79214 B, Parcel 133 containing 0.50 of an acre.

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and Head of Governor's Office.

The Minister of Home Affairs and Lands briefed Council on the application. Executive Council approved the granting of an Aliens Land Holding Licence to XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX to hold property situated in Registration Section: South East, Block 79214 B, described as Parcel 133 being 0.50 of an acre of land, located in Sandy Hill for private residential purposes with intent to rent, subject to:

a) Payment of the following Stamp Duties:

(i) under the Stamp Act on Transfer of Shares – 5% of EC\$2,358,895.00	EC\$117,944.75
(ii) under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act on Transfer of Shares – 5% of EC\$2,358,895.00	EC\$117,944.75
TOTAL	<u>EC\$235,889.50</u>

- b) The property must be used for residential purposes
- c) The Licencee must not rent their dwelling house without first notifying the Ministry of Economic Development, Investment, Commerce, Information Technology & Natural Resources in order to rent the said property.
- d) The Licencee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla enforced from time to time including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Labour Relations Act 2018 and Work Permit Regulations,

the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made there under.

- e) Any breach of any of the conditions of this Licence shall result in all the estate and interest of the Licensee in the land being liable for forfeiture to the Crown.

Council authorised issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

Action: DLS; PS, HA; HON MIN, HA.
