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MINUTES OF THE 168TH MEETING OF THE TENTH ANGUILLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2013

PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms Christina Scott

The Honourable Hubert Hughes, Chief Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Investment, Commerce and Tourism and Minister of Labour and Immigration and Minister of Social Development and Health

The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Stanley Reid

The Honourable Evan Gumbs, Minister of Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities and Housing

The Honourable Attorney General, Mr James Wood QC

Mrs Sonia Brooks, Acting Clerk to Executive Council

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr Bonnie Richardson-Lake, PS, HSD

Dr Aidan Harrigan, PS, Finance Mr Foster Rogers, PS, EDICT

Mr Kenrick Richardson, Comptroller of Customs Ms Francis Barry, Principal Immigration Officer Mr Remington Lake, Acting CEO, AASPA Mrs Chantelle Davis, Deputy Director ATB Mr Oliver McDonna, Chairman ATB Mr Delroy Lake, President AHTA

Mr Wilbert Fleming, Board Member, ATB

ABSENT: The Honourable Jerome Roberts, Minister of Lands, Physical Planning, Human

Rights, Environment, Gender Affairs and Agriculture and Fisheries and Minister

of Sports and Education, Library Services, Sports, Youth and Culture

EX MIN 13/705 EX MIN 13/692 EX MEM 13/316 APPROVAL TO REVISE

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS FORM

EX MIN 692 of 10th October refers.

Council welcomed work done to combine the immigration and customs border entry forms into one entry form that contained information for both purposes. Council noted that the proposed form would significantly improve data collected for immigration, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of processing passengers.

Council approved the revised combined form as attached as Annex 1 of EX MEM 13/316, and that it come into effect as of 1 November 2013, or as soon as practicably possible. Council further agreed that the AG's Chambers should be tasked with preparing the associated changes to the 1994 Anguilla – Conditional Exemptions regulations.

Action: PS, EDICT; HON AG

EX MIN 13/706

EX MEM 13/300 TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COLLECTION OF EMBARKATION TAX AND AIRLINE TICKET TAX TO THE ANGUILLA AIR AND SEA PORTS AUTHORITY

Council agreed that the paper should be deferred until next Meeting of Executive Council on Thursday 24 October 2013.

Action: PS, MICUH; PS, FIN

EX MIN 13/707

EX MEM 13/312 WELLS REGULATIONS, 2013

Council agreed that the paper should be deferred until next meeting of Executive Council on Thursday 24 October 2013.

Action: PS, MICUH

EX MIN 13/708

EX MEM 13/318 BILL FOR MONEY SERVICES BUSINESS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2013

Council approved the Bill for Money Services Business (Amendment) Act, 2013 for immediate publication in the Gazette, first reading in the House of Assembly in its next session, and second and third readings as soon as possible thereafter.

Action: HON AG

EX MIN 13/709

EX MEM 13/319 MORATORIUM ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BUSINESSES ON ANGUILLA AND AMENDMENT TO THE TRADES, BUSINESSES, OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS LICENSING ACT

Council agreed that the paper should be deferred until next meeting of Executive Council on Thursday 24 October 2013.

Action: PS, EDICT; PS, FIN

EX MIN 13/710

EX MEM 13/325 EXEMPTION FROM THE WORK PERMIT REQUIREMENT

Dr Aidan Harrigan, PS Finance and Mr Foster Rogers, PS, EDICT remained for discussion.

The Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) has submitted a request to the Honourable Chief Minister and Minister of Labour for an exemption from the work permit requirement with respect to Auditors from KPMG Barbados who will be representing the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank in Anguilla. The auditors from KPMG will be auditing the accounts of the National Bank of Anguilla (NBA) and the Caribbean Commercial Bank (CCB). Anguilla is a member of the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU).

Council agreed that the auditors listed below should be exempted from the work permit requirement in accordance with Section 3 (f) of the Control Employment Act.

- (1) Ms Lisa Brathwaite
- (2) Mr Jerrymie Mangahas
- (3) Ms Paula Franklyn
- (4) Ms Trish Lopez
- (5) Mr Ian Wood
- (6) Ms Marlette Simmons-Browne
- (7) Ms Allison James
- (8) Ms Tamacia Lynch
- (9) Ms Kimberley Brathwaite
- (10) Mr Lakeisha Oliver

Action: PS, MHA/LANDS; PAS, MHA/LANDS; LAB COM; CIO

EX MIN 13/711 <u>EX MEM 13/326 APPROVAL OF BRAND REALIGNMENT EXERCISE</u> BY THE BRITTO AGENCY

Dr Aidan Harrigan, PS Finance and Mr Foster Rogers, PS, EDICT joined the meeting.

PS Finance observed that the draft 2014 Budget had been prepared and did not reflect the expenditures contained in the memo. Other planned expenditure would have to be removed from the draft budget to accommodate this bid.

The Hon Chief Minister indicated that he would have a more broad based discussion with all the stakeholders involved and ensure that the proposals fit within the Sustainable Tourism Master Plan.

Action: PS, EDICT; PS, FIN

EX MIN 13/712 <u>EX MEM 13/327 APPLICATION FOR DUTY EXEMPTION BY ISLAND</u> GREENS

Dr Aidan Harrigan, PS Finance and Mr Foster Rogers, PS, EDICT remained for discussion. Mr Kenrick Richardson, Comptroller of Customs joined the meeting.

Council agreed that the paper should be deferred pending information on how Peat Moss should be dealt with.

Council requested the Comptroller of Customs to stop using asterisks to identify goods that were not dutiable but instead to make a table for duty paid goods and another for duty exempted goods to avoid any possibility of confusion going forward.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; COC; FO

EX MIN 13/713

EX MEM 13/328 APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF LEASE OF CROWN LAND – LESTER AND CAROLYN RUAN – PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS REGISTRATION SECTION ROAD CAULS POND 69114B PARCEL 131 CONTAINING 1.00 ACRE OF LAND

Council agreed that the paper should be deferred until next meeting of Executive Council on Thursday 24 October 2013.

Action: PS, MHA/LANDS

EX MIN 13/714

EX MEM 13/329 REVISED ANGUILLA TABLE OF ALLOCATIONS

Council agreed that the paper should be deferred until next meeting of Executive Council on Thursday 24 October 2013.

Action: PS, MICUH

EX MIN 13/715

EX MEM 13/330 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION ACT

Council agreed that the paper should be deferred until next meeting of Executive Council on Thursday 24 October 2013.

Action: PS, MICUH

EX MIN 13/716

EX MEM 13/331 MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT TO POLICE OFFICERS AND NURSES

Dr Bonnie Richardson-Lake remained for discussion.

Council considered the current position whereby Police Officers and Nurses have their medical costs in Anguilla fully met by GoA even if the expenses are incurred in relation to accidents sustained outside the workplace. Council noted that this was not a benefit open to other public servants working in other important functions, such as prison officers, customs and immigration staff, and teachers. Council was therefore minded to revisit the current position to ensure a level playing field between public servants carrying out similar duties, and remove the benefit available to Police Officers and Nurses.

Council however deferred the paper and taking a final decision pending discussions with the Commissioner of Police and the Director of Nursing Services to ascertain how many officers were injured in the line of duty, and to consider how any change in the arrangements might best be handled presentationally.

Action: PS, HSD

EX MIN 13/718 EX MEM 13/333 EASTERN CARIBBEAN CENTRAL BANK AGREEMENT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2013

Dr Aidan Harrigan, PS, Finance remained for discussion.

Council:

- (a) approved the amendment to the Act;
- (b) agreed that the amendment to the Act be sent to the Gazette Office for publication in an extraordinary edition of the Gazette;
- (c) approved the first, second and third readings of the Bill entitled the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank Agreement (Amendment) Act, 2013 during one sitting of the House of Assembly.

Action: PS, FIN; AG

ORAL MENTION

EX MIN 13/719 **EXTENDING OPENING HOURS OF THE BLOWING POINT PORT**

Dr Aidan Harrigan, PS Finance and Messrs Foster Rogers, PS, EDICT and Kenrick Richardson, Comptroller of Customs remained for discussion.

The Officials mentioned below joined the meeting:

Ms Francis Barry, Principal Immigration Officer Mr Remington Lake, Acting CEO, AASPA Mrs Chantelle Davis, Deputy Director ATB Mr Oliver McDonna, Chairman ATB Mr Delroy Lake, President AHTA Mr Wilbert Fleming, Board Member, ATB

Council noted the potential value to the tourism sector, and hence the economy, for extending the operating hours of the Blowing Point Port, but recognized that there were additional costs in doing so. Council considered different scenarios for keeping the Blowing Point Port opened until midnight daily. The Ministry of FEDICT, ATB, and AASPA were asked to report back to EXCO on a feasible and realistic way forward in the matter.

Action: PS, MICUH; PS, EDICT; PS, FIN; PS, MHA

EX MIN 13/720 <u>CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY</u> (CDEMA)

Council agreed that that the Hon Deputy Governor should represent Anguilla at the CDEMA Council meetings and that the Hon Chief Minister should advise CDEMA accordingly in writing.

Action: HON CM; DG

EX MIN 13/721 MEETING OF HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Council agreed that the next meeting of the House of Assembly should be held on Friday 25th October 2013 at 10:00 am.

Action: SPEAKER, HOA; CL, HOA

EX MIN 13/722 **OVERSEAS TRAVEL**

HE the Governor explained that she would be off island from 22 - 27 October on a work visit to London, and that Hon Stanley Reid would be acting Governor in her place.
