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MINUTES OF THE 127TH MEETING OF THE ELEVENTH ANGUILLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT: His Excellency the Governor, Mr Timothy Foy, OBE

The Honourable Victor Banks, Chief Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Commerce, Tourism and Information Technology

The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Perin Bradley

The Honourable Evans Rogers, Minister of Health and Social Development, Lands and Physical Planning

The Honourable Cora Richardson-Hodge, Minister of Home Affairs and Education

The Honourable Curtis Richardson, Minister of Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment

The Honourable Attorney General, Mr John McKendrick QC

Mrs Jewelle Fleming, Clerk to Executive Council

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Evalie Bradley, Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA

Mr Foster Rogers, PS, HLP

Mrs Maeza Demis-Adams, Health Planner

Ms Twyla Bradshaw-Richardson, Director, Chronic Diseases Unit

Mr Timothy Hodge, Director, SSB

Ms Maglan Lewis, Deputy Director, SSB

EX MIN 18/57 **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

Mrs Evalie Bradley, Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA joined the Meeting.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 126th Meeting held on Thursday 25th January 2018.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EX MIN 18/58 EX MIN 18/43 EX MEM 18/26 A BILL FOR THE LABOUR CODE 2018

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA remained in attendance.

Further to EX MIN 18/43 of 25th January 2018, the Hon Minister for Labour and Immigration informed Council that the first consultation on the above was held on Wednesday 31st January, which was well attended. Council noted that another meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 6th February. The Minister stated that the points made by some members of the audience were well taken, and that there would be further discussion between Ministers on the points raised. Any amendments would be sent to the Attorney General's Chambers for revision of the Bill.

Action: PS, MHA; LAB COM (Acting); MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 18/59 <u>2018 ESTIMATES OF RECURRENT EXPENDITURE, RECURRENT REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET</u>

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA remained in attendance.

Further to EX MIN 18/54 of 25th January 2018, Council noted that the discussion on the 2018 Budget was deferred to the next meeting of Executive Council to be held on Thursday 8th February 2018.

Action: PS, FIN

EX MIN 18/60 <u>DISCUSSION WITH ST. MAARTEN CONCERNING ACCESS TO ANGUILLA</u>

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA remained in attendance.

With reference to EX MIN 18/03 of 11th January 2018, the Hon Chief Minister informed Council that he had spoken to the relevant Minister in St. Maarten concerning the relocation of the ferry terminal building. The Minister told him that he had to obtain the approval of his cabinet on the matter. The CM stated that he would contact the Minister again by the end of the week on the position.

Action: HON CM; PARL SEC; OTHER MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 18/61 CONSTITUTIONAL & ELECTORAL REFORM

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA remained in attendance.

Council noted:-

(i) voter registration – office space had been identified in the Inland Revenue building. The Hon Deputy Governor, who spoke to this, said that MICUH was working with the team to get the building ready. The DG indicated that he would update Council on the progress;

- (ii) electoral reform the Hon Minister, MHA indicated that the legislation (draft Election Act and Electoral Boundaries Commission) were presently with the Attorney General's Chambers and all efforts should be made to move quickly on this; and
- (iii) constitutional reform political decision for discussion between GoA Ministers. Following discussion on what the Ministers wished to consider, correspondence should be sent directly to Lord Ahmad, Minister, OTs outlining the issues they would like to discuss and progress.

Action: HON DG; HON AG; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 18/62 <u>PUBLICATION/REDACTION POLICY ON EXECUTIVE COUNCIL</u> <u>MINUTES</u>

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA remained in attendance.

Council noted that in general, the minutes of Executive Council should be published un-redacted. However there may be sensitive matters, such as national security, concerns about public interest, legal disputes and medical information that may need to be redacted. Council agreed that a publication/redaction policy paper should be submitted to Executive Council by Thursday 22nd February 2018 for its consideration.

Action: HON AG; EXCO MEMBERS

EX MIN 18/63 EX MEM 18/37 FILLING OF THE TOURISM EDUCATION COORDINATOR POST

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA remained in attendance.

Council:-

- (i) agreed that the post of Tourism Education Coordinator in the Education Department should be filled effective February 2018; and
- (ii) noted that the Department of Education had made provision for the post in the 2018 Budget Estimates.

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

Action: HON DG; CEO; PS, ED; PS, PA; PS, FIN; PS, EDICT; BD; ACC GEN

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA left the meeting.

EX MIN 18/64 <u>EX MEM 18/38 THE FILLING OF VARIOUS VACANCIES WITHIN THE</u> ANGUILLA PUBLIC SERVICE (APS)

Council agreed that the following vacant posts within the APS should be filled given that their impact on overall staff numbers and costs was neutral:-

				No. of	
Min/Dept.	Title 4	Grade	Salary	Vacancies	PS/HOD
Public Administration	Office Attendant	M	38592	1	KAR
MICU/ Environment	Office Manager	Е	\$90,000	1	СРВ
MICU/Fire Service	Chief Fire Officer	В	\$129,000	1	KVD
MHA/Radio Anguilla	Sales and Marketing Manager	Е	\$90,000	1	СРВ
MHA/Radio Anguilla	Announcer	K	\$50,000	1	СРВ
MHA/Labour	Labour Officer	L	\$48,132	1	СРВ
MHA/Education	Tourism Education Coordinator	D	\$101,000	1	BRL
MOF/DITES	System Technician	J	\$55,000	1	KVD
	Deputy Director - Ops and				
MOF/DITES	Comms	C	\$115,000	1	KVD
MOF/Statistics	Statistician	D	\$103,000	1	LF
MOF/Planning	Senior Planner	D	\$103,000	1	LF
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MOF/Statistics	Census Assistant	K	\$50,000	1	LF
MOF/Commercial	ACORN Administrative				
Registry	Assistant	L	\$96,000	2	LF
MOF/Post Office	Deputy Postmaster General	Е	\$90,000	1	AH
MSD/Dept. of Youth and					
Culture	Programme Assistant (Youth)	K	\$50,000	1	BRL
MSD/Dept. of Social	Social Worker – Family and				
Development	Social Services	F	\$80,000	1	MFR

MSD/Dept. of Social Development	Social Worker – Elderly and Disabled	F	\$80,000	1	MFR
MSD/Dept. of Social Development	Receptionist/Clerical Officer	L	\$48,000	1	MFR
MSD/Her Majesty's Prison	Prison Tutor	F	\$80,000	1	MFR
MSD/ Department of Probation	Senior Probation Officer – Adult	F	\$80,000	1	MFR
Total			\$1.5M	20	

Council further agreed that the posts should be advertised internally in the first instance.

Action: HON DG; PS, PA; PS, FIN; PS, EDICT; OTHER PSs; BD; ACC GEN

EX MIN 18/65

EX MEM 18/40 STEPS RISK FACTOR SURVEY AND GLOBAL SCHOOL HEALTH REPORTS 2018

The following persons joined the Meeting:-

Mr Foster Rogers, PS, HLP Mrs Maeza Demis-Adams, Health Planner Ms Twyla Bradshaw-Richardson, Director, Chronic Diseases Unit Mr Timothy Hodge, Director, SSB Ms Maglan Lewis, Deputy Director, SSB

Council:-

- (i) noted the findings of the WHO STEPS Risk Factor Survey and the Global School Health Survey Reports which were conducted in 2016;
- (ii) further noted that non-communicable diseases (NCDs) had emerged as the leading cause of illness and death globally; and
- (iii) approved the proposed way forward as outlined:
 - a) the implementation of the FCTC recommendations beginning with the banning of smoking in public places;
 - b) the need for ongoing health education, advocacy and social mobilization to encourage behavioural change emerged as crosscutting themes;

- c) strengthen "skills based health education" in schools with a focus to develop communication, negotiation and interpersonal skills and competencies for health practices related to students' health;
- d) create a supportive environment for students to seek and receive counselling for substance abuse, mental health issues and other personal/social problems without fear of exposure and/or discrimination;
- e) enforce legislation so as to prevent students from having easy access to purchase alcohol and tobacco; and
- f) standardized updated protocols for health screening and management of NCDs needs to be prioritized to ensure consistent practices that addresses those most at risk.

Council commended the officials for an excellent and comprehensive presentation and invited them to attend Executive Council quarterly for an update on their progress.

Action: PS, HLP; HP; DIR, CDU; CEO; HON AG

EX MIN 18/66

EX MEM 18/41 FOURTEENTH (14TH) ANGUILLA ELECTRICITY COMPANY (ANGLEC) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – VOTING DIRECTIVE AND INSTRUCTIONS

Council:-

- (i) authorised Dr Wycliffe Fahie, PAS Finance to attend the next Annual General Meeting of ANGLEC to be held on 5th February 2018 and vote the Government of Anguilla shares in accordance with the Executive Council's directives on this matter;
- (ii) agreed that if the PAS Finance is unavailable to attend the meeting, a senior public officer should be authorised by the Hon Minister with responsibility for electricity to attend the meeting and vote the GOA shares in accordance with the Executive Council's directives;
- (iii) instructed its authorised representative to propose foregoing the dividend for 2016 given the impact of hurricane Irma. Council noted that payments would be considered for 2017 when the effects of hurricane Irma on the company's balance sheet were fully understood and an informed decision on affordability could be made;
- (iv) agreed that the Directors should remain until next year; and
- (v) agreed the authorised representative should indicate that BDO should be asked to be re-appointed as auditors to the company.

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

Action: PS, MICUHAFIT; PAS, FIN; PS, FIN; HON MIN, MICUHAFIT

EX MIN 18/67

EX MEM 18/42 VOTING GOVERNMENT OF ANGUILLA'S SHARES AT SPECIAL STAKEHOLDERS MEETING OF THE ANGUILLA ELECTRICITY CO LTD (ANGLEC) ON 5TH FEBRUARY 2018

Council authorised Dr Wycliffe Fahie, PAS Finance to support Agenda 5 of the notice of the Annual General Meeting.

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

Action: PS, MICUHAFIT; PAS, FIN; PS, FIN; HON MIN, MICUHAFIT

EX MIN 18/68

EX MEM 18/43 EXEMPTION FROM THE WORK PERMIT REQUIREMENT

Council noted a request from Digicel for exemption for six (6) of the company's top engineers from within the region, to be employed in reviewing the integrity of the work performed by the linesmen carrying out the technical work on the lines as part of the island's restoration/rebuilding of their HFC/FTTH project.

Council agreed that the persons on the attached list should be exempted from the work permit requirement in accordance with Section 3 (g) of the Control of Employment Act:-

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

Action: PS, MHA; LAB COM (Acting); CIO

EX MIN 18/69

EX MEM 18/44 APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERMIT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE

Council agreed that the twenty-three (23) persons on the attached list should be granted the permit of permanent residence in accordance with Section 24 of the Immigration and Passport Act.

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

Action: PS, MHA; LAB COM (Acting); CIO

EX MIN 18/70

EX MEM 18/45 DISCONTINUANCE OF THE LONG TERM NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROJECT

Council agreed that the MFEDICT should seek assurances from the UKG first before discontinuing the long term national sustainable development plan project.

Action: PS, FIN; PS, EDICT; PAS, FIN; BD; DEP; CPO; HON AG

ORAL MENTION

EX MIN 18/71 **PERMIT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE**

Council noted that Ministers in cabinet would be considering drafting a separate permanent residence policy with regard to persons who have already been resident on the island, and who have made significant financial contributions. The policy would be submitted to Executive Council for consideration subsequently.

Action: MINS OF GOV'T; PS, MHA

EX MIN 18/72 SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, (R.S.A. c. S45) BENEFITS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2017

Mr Timothy Hodge, Director, SSB and Ms Maglan Lewis, Deputy Director, SSB remained for discussion.

Council:-

- (i) authorised the Hon Chief Minister to sign the Benefits (Amendment) Regulations, 2017 effective 2 January 2017;
- (ii) noted the importance of a comprehensive review of the Social Security legislation;
- (iii) agreed that the MFEDICT should present a paper to Executive Council outlining the desired legislative changes;
- (iv) agreed that consideration be given as to whether the drafting of the legislation would be done internally/externally; and
- (v) agreed to liaise with the Attorney General's Chambers on the drafting process.

Action: PS, FIN; PS, EDICT; PAS, FIN; BD; HON AG; ACC GEN; MINS OF GOV'T
