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MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 27TH AUGUST 2020 AT 9.00AM

- PRESENT: His Excellency The Governor, Mr Timothy Foy, OBE
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 (acting Premier)
The Honourable Minister for Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing and Tourism, Mr Haydn Hughes
The Honourable Minister for Economic Development, Commerce, Information Technology, Environment and Natural Resources, Mr Kyle Hodge
The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford
Clerk to Executive Council, Mrs Angela Hughes
- IN ATTENDANCE: Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie
Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/Education, Mr Merrick Richardson
Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull
- ABSENT: The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance and Health, Dr Ellis Webster

EX MIN 20/351

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council confirmed the minutes of the 6th Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 20th August 2020.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The laboratory technician required to facilitate the open PCR testing will be able to commence work in around the second week of October 2020.

In order to facilitate faster response times, the repatriation team will be expanded by drawing on persons from within the public service.

EX MIN 20/352

EX MEM 20/163 REPLACEMENT MEMBER FOR THE SOCIAL PROTECTION BOARD (SPB)

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council:

- (i) noted the resignation of one member of the Social Protection Board (SPB);
- (ii) approved the appointment of Ms. Latoya Scarbro to the Social Protection Board, for a term of three (3) years, as a replacement member in accordance with the Social Protection Act;
- (iii) noted that all members appointed to the Board must complete Governance and Accountability certification and Public Financial Management certification training within three (3) months, with a body approved by the Ministry of Social Development, failure to comply will result in removal from the Board;
- (iv) noted that the SPB must inform the Ministry of Social Development three (3) months in advance of the expiry of any and all SPB member's appointments or resignations; and

- (v) noted that the Honourable Minister for Social Development must designate a Government representative to sit on the SPB.

Action: PS, SD, HON MIN, SD

EX MIN 20/353

EX MEM 20/164 APPOINTMENT OF CARICOM YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council:

- (i) approved the appointment of Mr. Khari Goddard and Ms. Mikeela Skellekie to serve as Caribbean Youth Ambassadors for Anguilla for the period October 1st 2020 to July 31st 2022; and
- (ii) further approved the appointment of Ms. Tiffany Moore and Mr. Jahdo Vanterpool as alternative Caribbean Youth Ambassadors.

Action: PS, SD, HON MIN, SD

EX MIN 20/354

EX MEM 20/165 PREPARATION FOR THE ANGUILLA POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 2021 (AP&H CENSUS 2021)

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council noted the brief of the Hon Minister for Economic Development on the importance of the Population and Housing Census in determining public policies and development needs.

Following discussion, Council thanked the Anguilla Statistics Department and the Ministry for work well done, recognised the importance of completing the Census and agreed that:

- (i) the AP&H Census should take place in 2021 – it should not be deferred;
- (ii) the Anguilla Statistics Department should work towards minimising the budget for the AP&H Census 2021;
- (iii) the Anguilla Statistics Department should work with the Department of Lands and Survey to develop and introduce a physical addressing system, simultaneously with the preparation for the AP&H Census 2021; and
- (iv) requested that His Excellency the Governor liaise with HMG to ascertain whether there is potentially any financial support available for the AP&H Census 2021.

Action: PS EDCITENR, HON, MIN EDCITENR

EX MIN 20/355

REGULATIONS TO SUPPORT QUARANTINE CHARGES

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. The following persons joined:

PS, Health, Mr Foster Rogers
 Chief Medical Officer, Dr Aisha Andrewin
 Health Planner, Ms Rochelle Rogers
 PS Finance, Mrs Kathleen Rogers

Finance Officer, Ms Jamila Gumbs joined.

Council noted the Ministry of Health update dated August 27 2020, specifically that:

- (i) the amendment to the Quarantine Act to allow the Government of Anguilla to levy charges for quarantine services had been passed by the House of Assembly and assented to by His Excellency the Governor;
- (ii) the Attorney General's Chambers was drafting the schedule of fees for implementation; and

- (iii) persons interested in repatriation were requesting clarity on when quarantine charges will be implemented.

Following discussion Council agreed:

- (i) the following categories of persons should be exempted from paying quarantine charges:
- people required to travel overseas on official Government business;
 - returning students sponsored by the Government of Anguilla; and
 - following CMO approval, medical returnees referred overseas by the Health Authority of Anguilla, or private patients referred for services overseas which are not available in Anguilla; and
- (ii) to meet on August 28 2020 for further discussions on quarantine charges.

Action: PS HLTH, PS, FIN; HON, AG; HON, MIN HLTH

EX MIN 20/356

UPDATE ON MOU PROVISIONS – STATUTORY BODY CONTINGENT LIABILITIES REPORT

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council noted that any assessment about the past performance of statutory bodies and conduct of their boards must be based on a thorough examination of audited accounts.

Following discussion Council agreed to meet on August 31 2020 to discuss and review the report of Statutory Body contingent liabilities, that is being prepared by the Ministry of Finance, prior to submitting it to the FCO in compliance with the terms of the MoU for emergency financial assistance.

Action: PS, FIN; PS, EDCITENR, BD; ACC GEN; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 20/357

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET #2

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council noted the brief by the PS Finance and Financial Officer on the preparation of the second Supplementary Budget, specifically that:

- (i) departments had submitted estimates of spending pressures and savings although a few remained outstanding;
- (ii) a preliminary estimate of EC\$7.3 million set aside in the first supplementary budget for specific Covid-19 response measures was available for reallocation, including to areas not anticipated in that budget, such as the cost to quarantine persons repatriating from overseas;
- (iii) under the terms of the emergency financial assistance MoU, UK approval was required before virement of these funds could be made; and
- (iv) virement of these funds was necessary to keep expenditure within the agreed ceiling of EC\$241 million.

Following discussion, Council agreed:

- (i) that work to finalise the second Supplementary Budget should proceed at pace;
- (ii) that Ministers and Permanent Secretaries should work with the Boards of Statutory Bodies to finalise their subvention requirements for the remainder of 2020. To achieve this all Statutory Bodies must present Board approved budgets and cost reduction plans for the remainder of 2020 for Council's approval by September 8 2020. These plans must not increase contingent liabilities;

- (iii) that Government will set the terms and conditions upon which subventions would be granted to Statutory Bodies; and
- (iv) to carefully review and consider any reports identifying cost savings provided by the Public Services Unions, for future discussion.

Action: PS, FIN; PS, EDCITENR, BD; ACC GEN; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 20/358

UPDATE ON ACCELERATED REPATRIATION AND TOURISM REOPENING PLAN

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Accelerated repatriation

The PS, Health briefed Council on the plan for accelerated repatriation and tourism reopening.

Council noted that:

- (i) as at 27 August 299 persons had been repatriated, with a further 53 classified as medical returnees;
- (ii) as at 27 August a further 458 registered persons remain overseas in 40 countries and territories - 66% are located in the USA, Dominican Republic and UK; and
- (iii) 13 persons have been identified locally to fulfill quarantine staffing requirements until mid to late September.

Following discussion Council agreed that:

- (i) given the challenging financial situation every effort should be made to meet the staffing requirements for repatriation (including quarantine facilities) by drawing on public servants;
- (ii) the Honourable Deputy Governor should work expeditiously with the Department of Public Administration to identify public servants to fully meet the staffing requirements of the

government-run quarantine facilities; mobile surveillance team and track and tracing teams;

- (iii) the Health Authority and Chief Medical Officer should clearly indicate their staffing needs to the Honourable Deputy Governor as a matter of urgency; and
- (iv) where an offence is committed the penalties for breach of the Quarantine Act will be enforced.

Council noted a further US\$450,000 grant had been provided by the UK for border protection purposes.

Tourism reopening plan

Council noted the update from the Honourable Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, the salient points are as follows:

- (i) around 50 applicants to visit Anguilla had been received;
- (ii) Blue Sea Anguilla has been engaged for one month to establish the processes to organize and review applications submitted by visitors and property owners wishing to enter Anguilla. Thereafter the Anguilla Tourist Board will assume this responsibility;
- (iii) all ancillary matters necessary for the Phase 1 soft reopening have been completed; and
- (iv) the Phase 2 reopening will include hotels that wish to reopen. Individual plans will be made with those hotels and this will include COVID-19 certification and the requirement for tax clearance certificates.

Action: PS, EDCITENR, PS, HLTH, PARL SEC, ED;
HON MIN, HLTH; HON, MIN EDCITENR; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 20/359

**EX MEM 20/166 IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR LEGISLATIVE
AMENDMENTS TO FACILITATE COVID-19 SOFT TOURISM RE-
OPENING**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council noted the request to amend the Immigration and Passport Act to allow:

- (i) the Immigration Officer to grant a visitor the right to stay for a period of up to 12 months from the date of entry as per Section 23 (1); and
- (ii) requisite fees to be levied and use of the requisite application form.

Council further noted the request to amend the Labour Relations Act to allow:

- (i) the creation of a new work permit category – “Remote / Digital Worker’s Permit”. This permit would facilitate the entry of genuine remote workers while ensuring those persons do not accept employment from or offer any services to a citizen, permanent resident, immigrant, work permit holder or entity carrying on business in Anguilla; and
- (ii) requisite fees to be levied and use of the requisite application form.

Following discussion Council:

- (i) agreed to the proposed changes; and
- (ii) instructed the Attorney General’s Chambers to commence drafting amendments to facilitate the COVID-19 soft Tourism Re-opening.

Action: HON AG; PS, HA; HON, MIN HA

ORAL MENTION

EX MIN 20/360

UPDATE FROM COMMISSONER OF POLICE

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council agreed that it should receive an update from the Commissioner of Police on the status of criminal activity in Anguilla and also crime prevention strategies.

Action: HON AG; PS, HA; HON, MIN HA; MINS OF GOV'T
