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MINUTES OF THE 32nd MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 9.00AM

- PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam
- The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance 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 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 Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social
Development/Education, Mr Merrick Richardson
Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull
- ABSENT: Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development,
Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie

EX MIN 21/73

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

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

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 31st Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 18th February 2021.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Work continues on the Government of Anguilla Work Plan.

EX MIN 21/77

EX MEM 21/42 FINANCIAL STOCKTAKE - JANUARY 31 YTD

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

PS Finance, Mrs Kathleen Rogers
 PAS, Ms Marisa Harding-Hodge
 Budget Director, Mrs Shona Proctor
 Budget Officer, Ms Jamila Gumbs
 Comptroller of Inland Revenue (acting), Mr Lonnie Hobson
 Accountant General, Mr Vonlee Harris

Council:

- 1) thanked the team for work well done;
- 2) noted the report on the financial position as at January 31, 2021, from the Budget Officer;
- 3) noted that in January 2021 there were tax exemptions of XCD\$1.47 million unrelated to COVID-19;
- 4) noted that H.E. the Governor will confirm the position on EDF funding with the FCDO; and
- 5) the overall fiscal position remains challenging:
 - Overall financial position including debt amortization shows a surplus of \$14.01 million at the end of January;

- Recurrent revenue was EC\$34.55 million this is EC\$6.72 million less than the original forecast and there was no UK financial aid grant received during this month. 2021 commenced with an overall negative variance of 16.28% in the major performing accounts in Recurrent Revenue. Overall percentage impact on recurrent revenue for the major revenue heads as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are:
 - o Property tax - 12.58%
 - o Interim Stabilisation Levy - 14.30%
 - o Taxes on goods and services – 17.21%
 - o Customs duties and related charges -28.33%
 - o Licences - 36.63%

- Recurrent expenditure was EC\$15.90 million which is EC\$0.33 million above estimate;
- Capital balance is zero, capital expenditure is budgeted at EC\$2.87 million and this is the final tranche from the EDF;
- Operating bank accounts are overdrawn by EC\$11.25 million;
- Central Government Debt inclusive of short term credit facilities moved from \$452.80 million at the end of 2020 to \$446.36 million at the end of January 2021. The reduction in debt is attributable to debt amortization payments of \$4.64 million and disbursements on the ACC Loan of \$0.05 million;
- Since 2016 the \$330.28 million Banking Resolution debt declined by EC\$24.85 million to \$305.43 million at the end of January 2021; and
- The Sinking Fund balance at the end of January 2021 is zero.

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

EX MIN 21/78

EX MEM 21/43 A BILL FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE RECORDING OF COURT PROCEEDINGS ACT

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

The Hon Attorney General briefed Council. The objective of the draft bill is to harmonise legislation amongst the Member States and Territories by amending Section 2(2) to delete the phrase “presiding judicial officer” and substitute same with “Chief Registrar, Senior Magistrate or a Registrar”.

Council:

- 1) approved the Bill to amend the Recording of Court Proceedings Act; and
- 2) instructed the AG’s Chambers to prepare the Bill for tabling at the next session of the House of Assembly.

Action: HON, AG; SCC (Cr)

EX MIN 21/81

PRESENTATION BY THE ANGUILLA STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. The PS EDCITENR, Mrs Chanelle Petty Barrett and the Chief Statistician, Mrs Lori-Rae Alleyne-Franklin joined the meeting.

Council:

- 1) noted the brief of the Anguilla Statistics Department (ASD) outlining the process of census completion and the lessons learnt from the last two censuses;
- 2) noted the ASD’s indication that there are financial, physical and human resource constraints that are impeding the successful completion of the AP&H Census in 2021. XCD\$1.4 million should have been allocated over a period of 5 years to support the execution of the AP&H Census and this

has not happened, accordingly a lump sum would be required to complete the AP&H Census in 2021. There are additional challenges in taking additional measures to adapt to COVID-19 and in converting from PAPI to TAPI, such as, entering into contracts for services. The space for operations is limited and more staff are required;

- 3) noted that if the AP&H Census was completed in 2022 it is anticipated that the final report would be issued in 2024, with preliminary reports being issued in the intervening period. If the AP&H Census was completed in 2021 the data compilation and final report would take a disproportionate amount of time because the process is not effective;
- 4) further noted that it is necessary to conduct a pilot under the same conditions as the AP&H Census;
- 5) agreed that the AP&H Census should be delayed and take place in 2022 and that the pilot must take place in May 2021; and
- 6) further agreed that the ASD should endeavor to provide other data to Ministries and Government Departments as required to assist with forward planning.

Action: PS, EDCITENR; CHF STAT; HON, MIN EDCITENR;
MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 21/82

COVID-19 & ASTRAZENECA/OXFORD VACCINE UPDATE

Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. The following persons joined the meeting: -

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

Epidemiological Update

The World Health Organization's February 23, update indicates that the incidence of new COVID-19 cases has continued to decline compared to the previous week. As of February 23, over 110 million COVID-19 cases and 2.4 million deaths have been reported globally, with around 2.4 million new cases and 66,000 new deaths reported over the past week. The countries that reported the highest number of cases in the past week were the United States of America (480, 467 new cases representing a 29% decrease from the previous week), Brazil, Russian Federation, France and India.

Anguilla has recorded 18 confirmed cases to date. Currently there are 0 active cases.

Quarantine Update

At February 22, there were 265 persons in home quarantine including visitors staying at approved hotel and villa locations. There are 2 persons in Government of Anguilla quarantine facilities.

COVID-19 Control Measures Exit-Planning

The current control measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are underpinned by the regulation of entry into Anguilla, a testing regime involving 3 negative COVID-19 tests and completion of the required quarantine before being permitted free movement in Anguilla.

These measures have permitted Anguilla to record only 18 confirmed cases of COVID-19; with 17 cases considered imported and no onward transmission recorded after March 2020.

The full vaccination of a minimum of 70% of the population of Anguilla is required to achieve herd immunity and decrease the risk of COVID-19 transmission, such that the regulatory regime may be reduced. This can only be permitted if the global epidemiological situation allows and the Health team will be guided by the advice of regional and international partners.

Progress of vaccine rollout & vaccine campaign and registration status

Uptake

As of February 24 at 4.00 pm, there were 3459 persons vaccinated with a first dose, representing:

- 254 Healthcare workers
- 253 Civil, border protection and port staff
- 683 Hospitality workers
- 523 Retired
- 1746 Others

As of February 18, persons vaccinated were 51% male and 49% female with an age % breakdown as follows:

Age	%
18-34	12%
35-49	19%
50-64	23%
65+	15%

Registration

Over 5,300 persons have registered and registration outreach efforts continue, with sensitization and registration drives to improve registration in Districts 3 and 5 which appear to be underrepresented.

Distribution

On site vaccination at approved hotel properties continues.

Communications

The campaign using diverse media continues.

A front-facing live vaccine tracker is being developed for the beatcovid19 website. Work continues to improve the reporting dashboard and to update features to capture demographics.

Sensitization sessions continue with select groups.

Council noted:

- 1) the brief of the Health team and the proposed timeline for the reduction in control measures, aligned with vaccination uptake estimates in Anguilla;
- 2) that the renewal of existing COVID-19 regulations will be considered at the next meeting of Executive Council; and
- 3) that the second batch of vaccines is due to arrive on March 17.

Action: PS, HLTH; PS, FIN; PS, EDCITENR; BD; ACC, GEN;
HON, DG; HON, AG; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 21/83

EX MEM 21/36 APPLICATIONS FOR PERMIT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE

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

The Hon Minister for Home Affairs briefed Council on the advice provided by the Hon Attorney General after his review of the matter.

Council:

- 1) agreed that **Veron Linnette McEwan** should be granted the Permit of Permanent Residence in accordance with Section 24 of the Immigration and Passport Act;
- 2) further agreed that the applicant must submit a valid

Certificate of Good Standing from the Inland Revenue Department, before the Permit of Permanent Residence is issued; and

- 3) noted that granting Permanent Residence did not exempt persons from the provisions of the Control of Employment Act, nor did it entitle them to Belonger status until they have been residing in Anguilla for 15 years, or become naturalized British Overseas Territories Citizens in Anguilla. These individuals would become eligible to apply for naturalization after one year of permanent residency.

Action: HON, AG; LAB, COM; CIO; PS, HA; HON, MIN HA
