THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY

OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGUILLA

Copy No.

MINUTES OF THE 33rd MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4th MARCH 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 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

EX MIN 21/86 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 32nd Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 25th February 2021 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Monday 1st March 2021.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

H.E. the Governor confirmed that the European Commission has indicated that OTs will continue to be able to access a number of EDF programmes. The UK will take any loss of this funding into account in the next financial year based on need and will put in place an application process to access the funding. The FCDO will write to confirm the details.

EX MIN 21/88 EX MEM 21/47 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF THE HEALTH AUTHORITY OF ANGUILLA (HAA)

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

Council:

- 1) noted section 7 of the Health Authority of Anguilla Act;
- noted the appointment of the following individuals to the HAA Board for the specified term of two years effective March 1, 2021 to February 28, 2023:
 - a) Mr. Vonlee Harris
 - b) Ms. Janice Hodge
 - c) Ms. Junita Fleming; and
- 3) noted that in accordance with EXCO directives these individuals will be required to complete an examination.

Action: PS, HLTH; HON, PREM

EX MIN 21/89 EX MEM 21/48 ANGUILLA AIR AND SEA PORTS AUTHORITY (AASPA) OVERDRAFT FACILITY AT THE NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK OF ANGUILLA (NCBA)

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. PS, MICUHT, Mr Karim Hodge and the CEO of AASPA, Mr Sherman Williams joined the meeting.

The Hon Minister for MICUHT briefed Council. The AASPA has been operating with a deficit and revised its fee structure, as directed by Council. The new fees were taken into consideration in the 2021 budget, but there will be an adjustment period before the fee income is realized. The AASPA want to extend their XCD\$1 million overdraft facility for one year and also make provision to increase the facility from XCD\$1 million to XCD\$2 million, if the business case supports this action. The additional overdraft facility would be used to meet AASPA's obligations and aid cash flow.

Council:

- approved the AASPA's request to extend the existing overdraft facility of XCD\$1 million for one year, pursuant to a new agreement;
- authorised the preparation of the Resolution for the extension of the overdraft facility and the tabling of the Resolution at the next session of the House of Assembly;
- 3) noted AASPA's request to increase the overdraft facility at the National Caribbean Commercial Bank from XCD\$1 million to XCD\$2 million and that the increase will only be employed if approval is obtained from the UKG and if AASPA performs financially and operationally, as required;
- agreed that presently the overdraft facility shall be limited to the amount of XCD\$1 million, until further directed by Council. Upon AASPA' s request for the increase Council will consider AASPA's actual financial outlooks and the business case

presented and make a determination as to whether or not the overdraft facility may be increased; and

 agreed that the MICUHT may write to the UKG to seek approval for the increase of the overdraft facility from XCD\$1 million to XCD\$2 million, as per the Framework for Fiscal Sustainability and Development.

Action: PS, MICUHT; HON, MIN MICUHT

EX MIN 21/90 EX MEM 21/49 EXTENSION OF THE CDB FUNDED PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION PROJECT TO DECEMBER 2021 (BUILDING EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE IN LAND USE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (BEGLUPEM) PROJECT)

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. PS, EDCITENR, Mrs Chanelle Petty-Barrett joined the meeting.

The Hon Minister and Permanent Secretary for EDCITENR briefed Council. The BEGLUPEM Project was initiated in 2012 by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) as a means of assisting Anguilla to provide more effective physical planning and environmental management legislation that meets international standards and facilitates environmental best practices.

Part of the grant contribution has already been disbursed and there is a total of US\$85,512/XCD\$229,873 remaining to be disbursed for completion of the project. The CDB wishes to advance these funds to Anguilla to complete the activities, on the basis that a formal request is made by the Government of Anguilla to extend the project.

Council approved the extension of the CDB funded project (BEGLUPEM project) to December 31, 2021.

Action: PS, EDCITENR; HON, MIN EDCITENR

EX MIN 21/91 EX MEM 21/50 2021 BUDGETS AND WORK PLANS FOR THE ANGUILLA SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD AND ANGUILLA DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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

The Hon Premier briefed Council. The boards of the Anguilla Social Security Board and the Anguilla Development Board have approved their respective budgets.

Council:

- noted the 2021 budget of the Anguilla Development Board with a forecasted net deficit of XCD\$103,233. There is no planned capital expenditure included in the 2021 budget;
- 2) approved the 2021 budget of the Anguilla Development Board;
- noted the 2021 budget of the Anguilla Social Security Board with a forecasted operating surplus before capital expenditure of XCD\$3,199,368. There is planned capital expenditure of XCD\$936,501 and a forecasted net surplus of XCD\$2,262,867; and
- 4) approved the 2021 budget of the Anguilla Social Security Board.

Action: PS, FIN; HON, PREM

EX MIN 21/92 COVID-19 & ASTRAZENECA/OXFORD VACCINE UPDATE

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 the meeting: -

PS, Health, Mr Foster Rogers Chief Medical Officer, Dr Aisha Andrewin DIR, CDU, Mrs Twyla Richardson-Bradshaw

Vaccination Deployment Update

As of March 1 at 12.00 pm there were 5629 registered persons of which 4054 persons had received their first dose representing:

- 270 Healthcare workers (7%)
- 269 Civil, border protection and port staff (7%)
- 844 Hospitality workers (21%)
- 589 Retired (15%)
- 2082 Others (50%)

The Health team plans to visit the private senior care facilities. Vaccinations will commence at HM Prison and for home-bound persons. Further sensitization and outreach work continues. The main vaccination uptake to date has been in the over 50's. More campaigns to target 18 - 34 year olds are planned.

The Western Polyclinic opened on March 1 and is serving the community widely, the aim is to commence vaccinations at this site by next week.

COVID-19 Related Legislation

In order to ensure that measures can be continued, all existing Covid-19 Regulations must be extended.

The Quarantine (COVID-19) (Arriving Passengers Health Clearance) Rules, 2021 have been amended to permit the introduction of fixed penalty tickets, with a maximum fixed penalty of XCD\$25,000. Tickets can be issued directly by the Quarantine Authority for breach of quarantine conditions, such as leaving isolation or tampering with the monitoring band. Failure to pay the penalty within the required time period is an offence and the person becomes liable for further prosecution under the Quarantine Act. Penalties are also introduced for persons who enter a place of quarantine or isolation without authorization.

Quarantine Surveillance and Monitoring

The quarantine surveillance and monitoring programme continues to be successful based on the operations of the Special Constables of the RAPF. The UKG funding for this programme will cease at the end of March, 2021. The average monthly cost is USD\$53K - 60K, not including surveillance by plane and boat. The Ministry of Health relies heavily on this system to protect the health of the country, to identify breaches promptly and isolate/quarantine persons as appropriate.

The integrity of the national quarantine system and restricted movement of persons entering Anguilla at this time hinges solely on the deterrent posed by the Special Constables through the rigorous manner in which they conduct their surveillance and monitoring duties.

Council:

- 1) thanked the Health team for the work well done;
- reviewed the existing COVID-19 related regulations which expire on 6 March 2021 and agreed that the following Regulations should be extended, for the period 7 March 2021 to 17 April 2021:
 - a) Public Health (Covid-19 Regulation of Ports) Regulations, 2021;
 - b) Public Health (Covid-19 Monitoring of Approved Businesses) Regulations, 2021;
 - c) Public Health (Quarantine) (COVID-19) Regulations, 2021;
 - d) Emergency Powers (COVID-19 Border Control) Regulations, 2021; and
- 3) approved the amended Quarantine (COVID-19) (Arriving Passengers Health Clearance) Rules, 2021, subject to amendment so that the provisions are operative for one breach of the quarantine conditions and agreed that the Regulation should be extended for the period 7 March 2021 to 17 April 2021;
- 4) noted that in order to increase vaccination uptake, there must be a focus on immobile persons and districts and sectors which have lower participation. As it relates to the Public

Service there is a need to address anti-vaccination sentiment, which directly encourages persons not to vaccinate;

- 5) noted the update of H.E. the Governor wherein she indicated that the Commissioner of Police confirmed that enforcement action is being taken for breaches of the quarantine conditions;
- 6) noted that at the next meeting of Executive Council the Health team will present an update on the proposals to prevent persons who have exited quarantine from mixing with persons who are still in quarantine and/or taking part in bubble activities. This is an area of concern, as local transmission must be avoided. An update will also be provided on the COVID-19 exit plan and any changes to the quarantine protocol must align with vaccination progress; and
- 7) noted that consideration needs to be given to allocating funds to maintain the Special Constables after the UKG funding ends. The November and December claims under the UKG financial aid MOU are being processed and there are no pending payments for January, February and March as no amendment to the MOU has been signed. After March 31, there is no further UKG financial aid available.

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

ORAL MENTION

EX MIN 21/93 POST OFFICE

The Hon Deputy Governor informed Council that the PS, Finance has arranged a working group to review the objectives and targets for the Post Office. The Hon Deputy Governor, the Parliamentary Secretary and the Post Mistress shall also meet in order to align the goals and outlook for the Post Office, particularly as it relates to performance from a customer service perspective.

Action: HON, DG

EX MIN 21/94 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Hon Deputy Governor informed Council that he would be taking two weeks' vacation leave from March 5 to March 19, 2021 and that the PS Health, Mr Foster Rogers would be acting Deputy Governor during this period.

Action: EXCO MEMBERS
