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**MINUTES OF THE 182nd MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd MAY 2024 AT 9.00 AM**

- PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms. Julia Crouch
- The Honourable Deputy Governor (Acting), Mrs. Jacqueline Bryan-Niles
- The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development & Investment and Health, Dr. Ellis Webster
- The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services, Ms. De-Anne 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 Attorney General, Mr. Dwight Horsford
- Clerk to Executive Council, Ms. Dumisa Webster
- IN ATTENDANCE: The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Merrick Richardson
- Financial Advisor, Mr. Evarist Mwesigye
- Head of Governor's Office, Mr. Orlando Ames-Lewis
- ABSENT: The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr. Perin Bradley
- The Honourable Minister for Sustainability, Innovation and Environment, Mrs. Quincia Gumbs-Marie

EX MIN 24/105

National Day of Prayer: Thursday, 2nd May 2024.

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of Governor's Office remained.

Apostle Elmead Allen, Chaplain of His Majesty's Prison gave the opening prayer in Executive Council as a part of observance of the National Day of Prayer 2024.

ACTION: EXCO MEMBERS

EX MIN 24/106

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of Governor's Office remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting as the Shareholder Committee of NCBA held on Thursday, 18th April 2024, Special Meeting of Executive Council held on Tuesday, 23rd April 2024 and 181st Meeting of the Executive Council held on Thursday, 25th April 2024.

EX MIN 24/107

EX MEMO 24/73 Proposed Removal of Customs Duty and Goods and Services Tax on the Importation and Supply of Bait

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of Governor's Office remained.

The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance briefed Council. Ex Min 21/63 notes that Executive Council approved the Policy on removal of customs duties and Interim Goods Tax (IGT) on goods imported by farmers and fishers for the purpose of agriculture and fisheries. As such, the exemptions were given legal effect via Resolution in the Anguilla House of Assembly pursuant to section 77(1) of the Customs Act and section 6A of the Interim Goods Tax (Amendment) Act 2020. This resolution (Statutory Instrument 18/2021), included a list of goods for which farmers or fishers are eligible to receive the exemptions. Other importers are not eligible for these exemptions.

The Goods and Services Tax Regulations 2022 reflects a list of goods that are imported or supplied for the purpose of fishing or farming which are zero rated. However, this list is exclusive of bait, which the cost of is currently a major difficulty

faced by the fishers. The records of the Ministries of Finance and Sustainability reflect that although some fishers import bait themselves, the majority purchase bait locally from suppliers who imported bait, paid Good and Services Tax, and are most likely passing this increased cost on to the fishers. The two types of bait currently imported are squid and cow skin/hide. There may be a concern that squid may also be used for culinary purposes and, therefore, passing on an unintended benefit to importer, however, import records and negligible market demand for squid for human consumption do not justify this concern. Ministries of Finance and Sustainability recommend and request that all importers of bait be eligible for customs duty exemption and that bait be added to the list of zero-rated items under the Goods and Services Tax Regulations, in anticipation that this will result in reduced cost of bait for fishers.

The Consumer Affairs Unit will monitor this to ensure that the savings experienced by importers are being passed on to the fishers and used for bait and not food imports.

Council:

- 1) Considered and approved the removal of customs duty on bait for all importers and the addition of bait to the list of zero rated items in the Goods and Services Tax Regulations.
- 2) Noted that amendments to the Integrated Customs Tariff Regulations and Goods and Services Tax Regulations will be required.

Council authorized issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

ACTION: PS, EDMSIE; HON PREM.

EX MIN 24/108

EX MEMO 24/74 Nominations for The Anguilla Badge of Honour and King's Certificate

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of Governor's Office remained.

The Anguilla Badge of Honour and King's Certificate are awarded based on two categories: Revolution and Social

Development. In the Social Development category, consideration is given to Anguillians and/or Non-Anguillians who have made outstanding contributions to the Social, Political, Economic and Cultural development of Anguilla since 1969. The longevity, nature, extent, and remarkable nature of the contribution of the nominee is considered. The National Honour and Awards Committee after meeting to consider the nominations for the Anguilla Badge of Honour and King's Certificate for 2024 recommended the following seven persons under the category of Social Development:

- Mrs. Marilyn Angela Brooks-Cornell
- Mrs. Jacqueline Ruan
- Mr. Rollins Ronaldo Richardson
- Mr. Restormel Franklin
- Mrs. Wilhelmina Louise Franklin
- Mr. Alwyn Jereme Richardson
- Mrs. Celestine Eileen John

Council:

- 1) Approved the recommendation of the National Honours and Awards Committee for the award of the Anguilla Badge of Honour; and
- 2) Approved the recommendations for the award of the King's Certificate to be submitted to the Governor for her consideration and approval in relation to the following:

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Mrs. Marilyn Angela Brooks-Cornell
- Mrs. Jacqueline Ruan
- Mr. Rollins Ronaldo Richardson
- Mr. Restormel Franklin
- Mrs. Wilhelmina Louise Franklin
- Mr. Alwyn Jereme Richardson
- Mrs. Celestine Eileen John

Council authorized issue of the action sheets before confirmation of the minutes.

ACTION: PS, EDMSIE; HON MIN, SIE

EX MIN 24/109

EX MEMO 24/75 Approval of Allowances and Overtime for Department of Health Services Staff Including Technical and Contractual Workers

Hon. Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of Governor's Office remained.

The Honourable Deputy Governor (Acting) and PS, Health (Acting) briefed Council. The Health Authority of Anguilla (HAA) staff, mainly technical and contract workers, in addition to being paid an annual salary, were paid allowances. These allowances included On Call (retainer fee), Call Out (based on number of hours worked), Housing, Uniform, Travel, Overtime/Sessions, Public Holiday and Responsibility. In creating the Department of Health Services (DoHS), all staff were not going to be placed in a worst position, meaning, their salaries and allowances would be personal to holder for those outside of the Government of Anguilla (GoA) pay structure (technical and contract workers) and there would be a revision of administrative staff to be aligned with the established GoA pay structure and allowances. This revision would ensure fairness, equity and value for money across the Anguilla Public Service.

Public Administration found it most practical to, in the initial phase of transition, use the HAA allowance rates to facilitate a smoother transition in the interim, considering, there were outstanding payments brought over on 1st April 2024. On 1st April 2024, the HAA and various sub-committees were dissolved, therefore, payment of responsibility allowance to the Executive Assistant, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/Secretary to the HAA Board and sub-committees, including board members became redundant.

It is requested that the Executive Council consider the implementation of the Former Health Authority's allowance rates for the DoHS staff to allow the effective payment of outstanding allowances prior to April 2024 and thereafter until new rates are established.

Council approved the Health Authority of Anguilla allowance rates, with the exception of the allowances paid to Executive Assistant, CEO/Secretary to the Board/HAA Public Relations, for use over the next three months (April – June) to pay eligible staff including technical and contractual workers who are incorporated into Department of Health Services from the former Health Authority of

Anguilla to ensure that Government is legally paying employees accordingly.

Council authorized issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

ACTION: PS, HEALTH (ACTING); PS, PUBLIC ADMIN; HON PREM; HON DG.
