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**MINUTES OF THE 36<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA**  
**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> 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 21/115

**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 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

EX MIN 21/116

**EX MEM 21/63 FINANCIAL UPDATE – FEBRUARY 28, YTD**

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 Finance (Ag), Ms Marisa Harding-Hodge  
 Budget Officer, Ms Jamila Gumbs  
 Deputy Comptroller of Customs, Mr Giovanni Francisca  
 Comptroller of Inland Revenue (Ag), Mr Lonnie Hobson  
 Accountant General, Mr Vonlee Harris  
 Chief Project Officer, Ms Anthea Ipinson  
 Debt Manager, Ms Ingrid Richardson

Council:

- 1) thanked the team for work well done;
- 2) noted the report on the financial position as at February 28, 2021, from the Budget Officer;
- 3) noted that at the end of February 2021 there were tax exemptions of EC\$3.63 million unrelated to COVID-19;
- 4) noted that there are pending financial assistance payments of EC\$4 million for November and December, which will be reflected as revenue when received;
- 5) noted that the UKG financial aid payments for November and December are outstanding, because there was an under

claim of EC\$874K and the UKG require confirmation as to whether the claim will be resubmitted; and

- 6) the overall fiscal position remains challenging:
- Overall financial position including debt amortization shows a surplus of EC\$14.01 million at the end of February;
  - Recurrent revenue was EC\$51.41 million this is EC\$15.96 million less than the original forecast and there was no UKG financial aid grant received during this month. Overall percentage impact on recurrent revenue for the major revenue heads as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are:
    - Property Tax - positive 8.37%
    - Interim Stabilisation Levy - positive 5.95%
    - Taxes on Goods and Services – positive 4.03%
    - Excise Taxes – negative 13.07%
    - Taxes on Specific Services - positive 80.72%
    - Taxes on International Trade – negative 20.18%
    - Sale of Goods and Services – positive 7.35%
  - Recurrent expenditure was EC\$31.89 million which is EC\$0.35 million above estimate;
  - Capital balance shows a deficit of EC\$0.17 million. Capital Revenue remains at \$0 for the period whilst capital expenditure was EC\$0.17 million;
  - Operating bank accounts are overdrawn by EC\$6.53 million;
  - Central Government Debt inclusive of short term credit facilities moved from EC\$452.80 million at the end of 2020 to EC\$441.66 million at the end of February 2021. The reduction in debt is attributable to debt amortization payments of EC\$4.89 million, disbursements on the ACC Loan of EC\$0.32 million and exchange rate fluctuations of EC\$0.01 million;
  - Since 2016 the EC\$330.28 million Banking Resolution debt declined to EC\$305.43 million at the end of February 2021, the EC\$24.85 million reduction relates to amortization payments to the DPT and CDB recapitalization loan; and

- The Sinking Fund balance at the end of February 2021 is zero.

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

EX MIN 21/117

**EX MEM 21/64 TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO ANGUILLA FINANCE LIMITED (AFL)**

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 Government of Anguilla recently reviewed its Medium Term Economic Fiscal Plan and was required to make significant adjustments in order to decrease expenditure, demonstrate accountability and ensure value for money. The decision was made to cease monetary contributions to AFL, effective March 31, 2021 and notice was given to AFL in December 2020.

Since then, AFL through its Board and executive management have made representations to Government officials, highlighting the benefits of the organisation and also the need to continue marketing activities related to Anguilla, as an international financial centre. Extending the funding will allow some marketing related activities to continue, thus ensuring continuity in this area, whilst the Government considers a strategy to market Anguilla going forward.

Council:

- 1) noted that the cost of the two month extension is EC\$90,105.17 and this can be accommodated within the 2021 budget; and
- 2) approved the provision of financial contributions to Anguilla Finance Limited for an additional two month period, which shall expire on May 31, 2021.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; BD; ACC, GEN; HON, PREM

EX MIN 21/118

**EX MEM 21/65 APPOINTMENT OF THE NATIONAL HONOURS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE**

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

The Hon Minister for EDCITENR briefed Council. The National Honours and Awards Committee (Committee) is responsible for objectively examining applications and making recommendations to Executive Council. These recommendations concern the national recognition of Anguillians or non-Anguillians, who have made meaningful contributions to Anguilla's development. In particular, the Committee makes suggestions regarding the award of the Anguilla Badge of Honour and Queen's Certificate and the naming of roads, buildings and institutions in honour of persons. The term of office of the Committee has expired.

Council:

- 1) thanked the outgoing committee members for their hard work, dedication and sterling contribution; and
- 2) approved the appointment of the following persons to the National Honours and Awards Committee, effective March 29, 2021, for a term of three (3) years:-
  - a) Mrs Chanelle Petty Barrett, Permanent Secretary responsible for National Celebrations and Protocol (Chairperson)
  - b) Mr Franklyn Richardson
  - c) Mrs Ursil Webster Brooks
  - d) Mr Ivor Hodge
  - e) Mr Clemvio Hodge
  - f) Mrs Tiffany Carty – Representative of the Department of Youth and Culture
  - g) Pastor Gareth Hodge – Representative of the Anguilla Evangelical Association

Action: PS EDCITENR; HON, MIN EDCITENR

EX MIN 21/119

**EX MEM 21/66 APPLICATIONS FOR PERMIT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE**

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

Council:

- 1) agreed that the following persons should be granted the Permit of Permanent Residence in accordance with Section 24 of the Immigration and Passport Act:
  - a) Carlos Santiago Garrido Zabala
  - b) Nalini Samantha Roberts
  - c) Maria Eunice Mejia Marte
  - d) Quentin Meilhac
  - e) Ariel Annastacia Palmer
  - f) Yvelisse Mercedes Cruz Hernandez
  - g) Sari-Lee Serena Benjamin
  - h) Francisca Virina Santana
  - i) Patrick Allan Nigel Mercurius
  - j) Ninian George
  - k) Suzett Rosemarie Brown
  - l) Simroy Malachi Wilson
  
- 2) further agreed that each applicant must submit a valid Certificate of Good Standing from the Inland Revenue Department, before the Permit of Permanent Residence is issued;
  
- 3) noted that granting Permanent Residence did not exempt persons from the provisions of the Labour (Relations) 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; and

- 4) agreed that the processes for the renewal of work permits and extensions of stay must be reviewed, to ensure that they are efficient.

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

EX MIN 21/122

### **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.

#### **Vaccination Deployment Update**

A request has been made to receive the third batch of AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccines on April 17, a total of 4,000 doses, but they may arrive earlier if an expiration date which is past May 2021 can be guaranteed.

As of March 24 at 4.00 pm, there were 6458 persons registered of which 5,490 persons have received their first dose. This represents 44% of the target population figure of 12,600 persons. The breakdown by occupation is as follows:

- 258 Healthcare workers
- 323 Civil, border protection and port staff
- 1035 Hospitality workers
- 782 Retired
- 3098 Others

Using 2011 census age demographics, the breakdown of individuals who have received the vaccine by age, is as follows:

- 1351 persons age 18 - 34 (34% of target)
- 1659 persons age 35 - 49 (42 % of target)
- 1549 persons age 50 - 64 (65 % of target)
- 922 persons age 65+ (77% of target)

This indicates that vaccination uptake is lower among the younger age groups. The Health team will continue outreach and promotional efforts directed towards groups where vaccination uptake is not as high as desired (18 - 45 year olds and hospitality workers) and provide more options for vaccination in the community. Outreach in the community continues.

### **Exit Planning Update**

The formulation of the Covid-19 exit planning strategy continues, with input from other sectors at this stage.

Council:

- 1) noted that vaccination uptake has slowed. Consideration may need to be given to policy initiatives, that require front line hospitality workers, in positions requiring interaction with recently arriving persons, to be vaccinated;
- 2) noted that consideration needs to be given to the COVID-19 measures to be adopted in relation to group travelers, where members of the group are largely vaccinated and therefore desirous of some degree of flexibility, in terms of the COVID-19 measures. There has to be a balance between following public health guidelines and meeting the demands of the market;
- 3) noted that the UKG have indicated that more vaccines can be provided to Anguilla, if they are needed;
- 4) noted the draft Exit Plan; and
- 5) further noted that a decision has to be made with respect to the timeline for the phased relaxation and eventual removal of the measures adopted to control the importation and transmission of COVID-19, that is all COVID-19 Regulations. This includes the removal of the requirement to quarantine, where certain conditions are met and this must also align with the vaccination milestones. The Ministers of Government and the Health team will meet on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March to discuss



the key issues and policies concerning the Exit Plan and determine the key dates. The timeline and proposed Exit Plan will be presented to Council at its next meeting on April 1.

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

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