

THE CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS

17th, 19th and 26th January, 2022

Cabinet Meeting – 17th January, 2022

His Excellency, the Governor John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the Special Meeting held virtually on 17th January, 2022.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General, who was on annual leave.

The Cabinet:

1. Noted the Situation Report #42 presented informally by the Health Emergency Operations Centre (HEOC) - Unified Command on 7th January, 2022; noted the Situation Report #43 presented by the HEOC - Unified Command, and
 - a. considered and agreed that the cost of testing be waived for persons who are symptomatic with COVID or who are contacts of cases presenting for COVID-19 rt-PCR and or a Rapid Antigen Test at the Dr. D. Orlando Smith Hospital during high incidences of positive COVID-19 cases in the Territory;
 - b. noted that the human resource capacities for the Environmental Health Division, the Social Distancing Task Force, the Public Health Unit and the 911 Emergency Call Handling Centre would need to be strengthened to support the enforcement of the Public Health Measures;
 - c. considered and agreed to amending the entry criteria to recognize a certificate of clinical recovery from COVID-19 which has been executed by a licensed Medical Practitioner as sufficient for entry of persons who have had COVID-19 within the past 90 days; and
 - d. decided that the Ministry of Health and Social Development instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to draft the relevant amendments necessary to give effect to item (c) of the decision sought.

Cabinet Meeting – 19th January, 2022

His Excellency, the Governor John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the Meeting held virtually on 19th January, 2022.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General, who was on annual leave.

The Cabinet:

1. Decided that a Hotel Aid Licence, with the current associated list of items as reviewed by the Her Majesty's Customs, be granted to Tavolara Limited in accordance with the Hotel Aid Ordinance (Cap. 290) for a period of five (5) years effective 1st October, 2021.
2. Approved the re-appointment of the following persons, in accordance with Schedule 4, Section (3) of the Planning Authority Act, 2004 for an additional four (4) months from 21st January to 22nd May, 2022 to the Physical Planning Appeals' Tribunal until the process for advertising is completed and noted that the members will be remunerated as follows: Chairman, \$500.00 per month and Members, \$300.00 per month:
 - i. Mr. Marvin Flax Jr. - Chairman;
 - ii. Ms. Kamika Forbes - Member;
 - iii. Ms. Marva Titley-Smith - Member;
 - iv. Mr. Benneth Smith - Member; and
 - v. Mr. Jerome Frett – Member.
3. Approved the re-appointment of the following persons in accordance with Schedule I, Section (3) of the Physical Planning Act, 2004 for an additional four (4) months from 21st January to 22nd May, 2022 to the Planning Authority until the process for advertising is completed:
 - i. Mr. Lucien Thomas - Deputy Chairman and Member;
 - ii. Mr. Clifton Thomas - Member; and
 - iii. Mr. Elvis Harrigan - Member
4. Decided that the Financial Services Commission be responsible for housing any publicly accessible register of beneficial ownership and urgently commence sourcing an estimate for including same in its revamped VIRRGIN platform, VIRRGIN LEAP, to incorporate the functionalities for the receipt, update, confirmation of accuracy, maintenance and publicly accessibility of beneficial ownership information and that the Financial Secretary be designated as the person who would be the decision maker where approvals are required from the Government.

5. Decided that pursuant to the Articles of Association of the National Bank of the Virgin Islands Limited and subject to the approval of the Financial Services Commission, the banking regulator, the appointments of:
 - a. Mrs. Tamara Maduro be approved to the membership of the Board of Directors of the National Bank of the Virgin Islands Limited as Non-Executive Director and Chairman for (3) years with effect from 1st February, 2022 to 31st January, 2025.
 - b. Mr. Ivan Hudson Carr to the membership of the Board of Directors of the National Bank of the Virgin Islands Limited be renewed as Non-Executive Director and Member for (2) years with effect from 28th February, 2022 – 27th February, 2024; and
 - c. noted that a transparent process was used to fill the vacant position of Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Bank of the Virgin Islands Limited as the position was advertised and applications vetted prior to selection of the candidate.
6. Reviewed and accepted the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board (CTB) technical committee, which was approved by the CTB on 30th November, 2021; and accepted the CTB's recommendations to award the tenderers listed below a contract for Solid Waste Collection for a period of three (3) years:
 - i. Zone one - Terry Smith *dba* T&S Trucking (\$612,000.00)
 - ii. Zone two - Lance Thomas *dba* LMJ's Backhoe & Trucking Services (\$518,364.00)
 - iii. Zone three - Nicolas Scatliffe *dba* Outer Limit Trucking, Garbage Disposal & Water Delivery (\$612,000.00)
 - iv. Zone four - D&R Heavy Equipment Services Limited (\$659,476.80)
 - v. Zone five - Kerry Thomas *dba* Platinum + (\$808,824.00)
 - vi. Zone six - Denco Limited (\$599,400.00)
 - vii. North Sound, Virgin Gorda - Everad Creque *dba* Toots Solid Waste Collection (\$270,000.00)
 - viii. Jost Van Dyke - Ever-Ready Trucking Ltd. (\$257,364.00)
 - ix. Anegada - Romalia Smith & Lenia Smith *dba* HRL Maintenance Services (\$272,023.14)
 - x. Virgin Gorda – *to be retendered*
7. Considered and approved the Bill entitled, Virgin Islands Food Security and Sustainability Act, 2022, which seeks to establish a management structure for agriculture and fisheries, and promote food security and sustainability in the Territory; and decided that the Bill be introduced for its first reading at the next convenient Sitting of the House of Assembly.

8. Approved one Non-Belonger Land Holding Licence application.

Cabinet Meeting – 26th January, 2022

His Excellency, the Governor John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the Meeting held virtually on 26th January, 2022.

All Members were present.

The Cabinet:

1. Reviewed and accepted the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board (CTB) technical evaluation committee, which was approved by the CTB on 28th September, 2021 and:
 - a. accepted the CTB's recommendation to award Tarris Hill Associates Ltd. the contract for the Construction of a New Social Home, Fat Hog's Bay, Tortola in the amount of one hundred and sixty-five thousand, two hundred and four dollars and fifty-five cents (\$165,204.55); and
 - b. decided that the Ministry of Health and Social Development instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to vet the relevant agreement.
2. Reviewed and approved the grant of Certificates of Belonger Status to fourteen (14) applicants, who have met the legal requirements of Section 16(5a) of the Immigration and Passport Amendment (No. 2) Act, 2019 as fourth generation Belongers.
3. Reviewed and accepted the 2020 Annual Report for the Department of Labour and Workforce Development; and decided that it be laid on the table in the House of Assembly at the next convenient Sitting.
4. Reviewed and accepted the 2020 Annual Report for the Survey Department and decided that it be laid on the table in the House of Assembly at the next convenient Sitting.
5. Approved two Non-Belonger Land Holding Licence applications.

Published by the Cabinet Office on 14th March, 2022.

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2. Only a summary of the decisions will be published.
3. Cabinet discussions will not be disclosed.
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