



CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS **19th December, 2018**

His Excellency the Governor Augustus J. U. Jaspert chaired the Meeting held on 19th December, 2018 at the Premier's Office Conference Room in the Central Administration Building.

All Members were present, with the exception of the Attorney General Hon. Baba Aziz, who was on annual leave. Ms. Fikile Dlamini attended as the acting Attorney General.

Cabinet:

1. Reviewed and approved the Bills entitled:
 - a. Liquor Licences Act, 2018 making the amendment that administrative responsibility for liquor licences be assigned to the Minister responsible for Trade, rather than the Ministry of Finance;
 - b. Police Act, 2018, which seeks to bring together an updated legislative basis for policing in the Territory thereby providing a strong Constitutional and professional base for a modernised Police Force and instructed the Deputy Governor's Office to develop a communication strategy/plan before the Bill is forwarded to the House of Assembly;
 - c. Elections (Amendment) Act, by deleting the section on absentee voting and amending the restriction on advanced polling to include requirements for tickets rather than an itinerary; removed the restrictions on categories, and agreed that the Attorney General's Chambers make the amendments before the Bill is forwarded to the House of Assembly.
2. Accepted the recommendation of the Central Tender Board to award FDL Consult Inc., the contract for Consultancy Services for Engineering Design and Construction Supervision for the Rehabilitation of Roads, Slopes and Coastal Defences in the amount of eight hundred and seventy-six thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars (\$876,250.00), and recommended that the consultancy be transitioned to the Recovery and Development Agency at the appropriate time. The Ministry of Finance would negotiate a contract regarding reimbursable expenses and confirmation of local indirect taxes.

3. Approved the allocation of approximately seven thousand, one hundred and six dollars (\$7,106) per annum for the provision of transportation services for former legislators Honourable Ralph T. O'Neal, OBE and Ms. Eileen Parsons, OBE.
4. Decided that the BVI Airports Authority be refunded five hundred and sixty-nine thousand, nine hundred and fifty-five dollars and forty-six cents (\$569,955.46) for the purchase of a fire tender to enable the re-opening of the Taddy Bay Airport on Virgin Gorda.
5. Approved the payment of up to five hundred and sixteen thousand, eight hundred and five dollars and six cents (\$516,805.06) (inclusive of interest up to 31st December, 2018) to **SABALS LAW** by way of settlement order to satisfy a claim against the Crown in the matter of *Daphne Alves v The Attorney General of the Virgin Islands*.
6. Approved that a limited or restricted tender process for the procurement of the disaster preparedness Readiness Projects be followed and agreed that outstanding funding is carried forward to the 2019 Budget. All implementing agencies would submit a quarterly update on the progress of the readiness activities being implemented.
7. Appointed to the Land Law Review Committee for one (1) year, as Chairman, Ms. Anthea L. Smith; Members: Ms. Willa Tavernier, Mr. Edward Childs, Ms. Jenelle Archer and *ex-officio* Members: Chief Registrar of Lands, Registrar of Lands, Chief Planner, Chief Surveyor, Assistant Secretary and Senior Lands Officer in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour.
8. Decided that Treasure Isle Marina (2016) Limited pay all outstanding land fees totaling \$202,865.00 to the Crown; that the portion of land measuring 0.4359 acres reclaimed by the Crown, with a current market value of eight hundred and fifty-eight thousand dollars (\$858,000.00), be transferred to Treasure Isle Marina (2016) Limited on a freehold basis for the consideration sum of one hundred and nine thousand, three hundred and seventy-five dollars \$109,375.00 and that the portion of land measuring 1.109 acres reclaimed by Treasure Isle Marina (2016) Limited for an estimated sum of \$300,000.00 to \$400,000.00 and a current market value of two million, four hundred and fifteen thousand dollars (\$2,415,000.00) be transferred to Treasure Isle Marina (2016) Limited at no charge.
9. Decided that the Cabinet Office proceed with the implementation and training of the Cabinet and Authorised Officers in the ExcoTrack software to green the Cabinet process.
10. Approved a number of Non-Belonger Land Holding Licence applications.

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1. Cabinet decisions will be published by the Cabinet Office following confirmation of the minutes.
2. Only a summary of the decisions will be published.
3. Cabinet discussions will not be disclosed.
4. Cabinet decisions of a sensitive nature, matters of national security, those where publication breaches regional or international conventions and those relating to personal privacy will not be disclosed.
5. Cabinet decisions will be published in the weekly issues of the Virgin Islands Official Gazette at www.eservices.gov.vg/gazette.
6. Cabinet decisions will be also available on bvi.gov.vg and on Twitter.