



CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT

CABINET DECISIONS **8th and 14th November, 2018**

His Excellency the Governor Augustus J. U. Jaspert chaired the meetings held on Thursday, 8th November, 2018 and Wednesday, 14th November, 2018 at the Premier's Office Conference Room in the Central Administration Building.

All Members were present at both meetings with the exception of the Deputy Premier and Minister for Natural Resources and Labour Dr. the Honourable Kedrick Pickering and the Minister for Health and Social Development Honourable Ronnie W. Skelton, who were absent on 14th November because of overseas travel duty and private business, respectively.

Cabinet Meeting - 8th November, 2018

Cabinet:

1. Recommended that The Moorings Limited be granted a Hotel Aid Licence by the Minister for a period of two (2) years effective 1st November, 2018 pursuant to Section 3 of the Hotel Aid Ordinance (Cap. 290).
2. Decided that the \$400,000 settlement offer from NAGICO Insurance be accepted in full discharge of all claims made by the BVI Fishing Complex, as a result of damages caused by Hurricane Irma. The Ministry of Finance would instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to vet the Release for full and final settlement.
3. Agreed to waive the tender process for the procurement of replacement traffic signal equipment and materials for the three (3) road intersections at Administration Drive, Station Avenue and the Pasea Estate entrance damaged during Hurricane Irma because the services are urgently needed for the continued safety of pedestrians and motorists, and decided that a contract be awarded to A & B ELECTRIC LTD. for a sum not to exceed \$150,000.00.
4. Decided to waive the tender process to procure 2,500 tons of asphalt due to the urgent need to rehabilitate the Territory's public roadways, which were damaged by the August floods, and Hurricanes Irma and Maria and decided that a contract be awarded to BVI Paving Company Ltd. for a maximum of \$500,000.

5. Agreed to waive the tender process, retroactively, for the repairs undertaken for the road reinstatement works at Cappaons Bay and Carrot Bay due to the urgent need following extensive damage caused by Hurricanes Irma and Maria and decided that a payment of \$251,737.50 be issued to Tandem Development Ltd.
6. Discussed the Department of Waste Management's debris clearance medium-term plan and the containment of dumpsite fires and decided:
 - (a) that funding of \$813,081.87 be allocated to the Department of Waste Management to execute its medium-term debris clearance plan and to cover the cost of extinguishing the fires at the Cox Heath and Pockwood Pond waste management sites;
 - (b) that the tendering process be waived and a contract be issued (retroactively) to Tortola Concrete Products for \$336,500.00, (the sum of which is included in the \$813,081.87) for services rendered for extinguishing the fire at the Cox Heath site, and for maintenance of the site from 1st January to 9th May, 2018;
 - (c) that funding in the amount of \$682,548.00 be allocated for the purchase of equipment to allow for the proper delivery to, and disposal of waste at the Pockwood Pond waste management site; and
 - (d) that the tender process be waived and approval given for the equipment noted in decision item (c) to be procured through competitive shopping with the requisite approvals of Cabinet being sought prior to execution of purchase.
7. Agreed on a policy to reduce plastic waste and decided:
 - (a) that measures be taken to prohibit the importation, manufacture, sale or distribution of disposable food and beverage service ware made from polystyrene (Styrofoam) and other non-compostable plastics, as well as single-use disposable plastic bags that are non-biodegradable;
 - (b) that biodegradable, eco-friendly, alternative products be exempted from import duties for a period of five (5) years; a levy be introduced on the importation of plastic water bottles to be paid into a recycling fund and that a deposit-refund system be created for single-use beverage containers (i.e. cans and bottles) as a monetary incentive for recycling or reuse;
 - (c) that the Ministry of Health and Social Development would instruct the Attorney General's Chambers to draft the relevant legislation.
8. Approved a number of Non-Belonger Land Holding Licence applications.

Cabinet Meeting - 14th November, 2018

Cabinet:

1. Accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to grant Certificates of Belonger Status to some persons who had met the requirements in accordance with Sections 16(3), (6) and (7) of the Immigration and Passport Act.
2. Accepted the recommendations of the Board of Immigration to grant Certificates of Residence to some persons who had met the requirements in accordance with Sections 18(1) and (2) of the Immigration and Passport Act.
3. Approved the BVI Ports Authority (Amendment) Regulations, 2018 and decided that the remission or refund of container storage charges during the period 7th September, 2017 to 6th September, 2018 should be capped at 21 days after arrival.
4. Noted that Cabinet had previously approved the rehabilitation of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Headquarters project via selective tendering as the procurement method to be followed and accepted the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee to award the contract to Autland Heavy Equipment and Construction Ltd. for a contract sum of \$816,467.21 to be completed within five (5) months following commencement of works.
5. Noted that Mrs. Jennifer Potter-Questelles resigned as Chairman of the BVI Ports Authority (BVIPA) effective 31st August, 2018 and decided that the Deputy Chairman, Mr. Trefor Grant, be appointed to serve on the BVIPA Board as Chairman for a period of three (3) years with retroactive effect from 1st September, 2018.
6. 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](#).