

## **CABINET OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS - POST MEETING STATEMENT**

### **CABINET DECISIONS**

**17<sup>th</sup> March, 2021**

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. John J. Rankin, CMG, chaired the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, which was held at the Financial Services Commission's Conference Room.

All Members were present.

The Cabinet:

1. Reviewed and accepted the Eleventh Annual Report and Financial Report for 2019 of the Office of the Complaints Commission and decided that both reports be tabled at the next convenient Sitting of the House of Assembly.
2. Noted the update provided by BVI Ports Authority regarding the operations at the Road Town Jetty and Cyril B. Romney Tortola Pier Park in preparation for the reopening of the Seaports on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.
3. Decided that exceptional approval be granted to waive the tender process to award a new contract to Wendell M. Gaskin, CFE for consultancy services in the amount one hundred and eight thousand dollars (\$108,000) for 12 months to provide support to the Ministry of Finance for consultancy services; to assist government with its constitutional obligation to have current annual audited financial statements; to provide a comprehensive analysis of Government's expenditure, and to make recommendations on how to bring greater efficiency in the day-to-day operations.
4. Reviewed the Evaluation Report submitted by the Central Tenders Board (CTB) sub-committee, which was approved by the CTB and:
  - a. accepted the result of the pre-qualification process and invited the named firms to be shortlisted based on the Expression of Interest criteria:
    - i. Rocky Mountain Institute
    - ii. Wood Environment & Infrastructure
    - iii. DNV GL
    - iv. WSP

- b. decided that the Government of the Virgin Islands provide full terms of reference and invite the companies to submit technical and financial proposals to undertake the assignment for consultancy services for the development of an Energy Transition Plan for the British Virgin Islands.
5. Noted the variation amount in the sum of two hundred and seven thousand, six hundred and fifty dollars and forty-five cents (\$207,650.45) to the contract entered with BDO Ltd. for portal changes to accommodate Economic Substance requirements.
6. Agreed to the review of the Labour Code, 2010 for its modernisation and bringing it more in line with the current BVI Labour Market and industry standards and:
  - a. decided that the Government engage Mr. Michele Tiraboschi, as consultant, to work on a collaborative basis with the Attorney General's Chambers to undertake the review of the Labour Code, 2010, effective 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, and to provide the Ministry of Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration with the following deliverables:
    - i. a draft revised and simplified Labour Code for the Virgin Islands;
    - ii. draft Labour Regulations for construction and marine Industries; and
    - iii. a National Organisation Health and Safety regulation according to the International Labour Organisation standards.
  - b. noted the payment of twenty-four thousand dollars (\$24,000.00) for the works to be provided on the Labour Code review; and
  - c. decided that Part X (Work Permits) of the Labour Code, 2010 shall not apply to consultants engaged by the Government of the Virgin Islands and statutory bodies established by it for the duration of their engagement in the Virgin Islands.
7. Approved the appointment of Ms. Shaunice Leonard as a member of the Parole Board for a period of three (3) years in accordance with Section 4 (3) of the Parole Act, 2009, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021, to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Mr. Trefor Grant.
8. Approved:
  - a. the re-appointment of the following persons as Members of the Parole Board for a period of three (3) years in accordance with Section 4(4) of the Parole Act, 2009, with effect from:

- i. 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021: Ms. Kya Huggins; Dr. Thomas Alexander and Rev. Paul Ricketts;
    - ii. 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2021: Mr. Ishmael Scatliffe, Mrs. Rosemarie Flax and Ms. Fiona Forbes; and
  - b. the recommendation for Mr. Ishmael Scatliffe to continue to serve as Chairman of the Parole Board by appointment of the Governor in accordance to Section 4 (2) of the Parole Act, 2009.
9. Appointed:
- a. Mrs. Faye J. Reese-Charles, Mr. Ashford K. Harrigan, Mr. Albert Stevens and Ms. Stephanie I. Faulkner-Williams to constitute the panel of assessors for the Youth Court in Virgin Gorda in accordance with Section 2(1) (d) of the Youth Courts Act, 2005 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2021 for a period of three (3) years;
  - b. Ms. Camique Osborne and Mr. Courtney Jones to constitute the panel of assessors for the Youth Court in Tortola in accordance with Section 2(1) of the Youth Courts Act, 2005 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2021 for a period of three (3) years and one (1) year, respectively.
10. Approved a number of Non-Belongers land holding licence applications.

**Published by the Cabinet Office on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.**

**###**

**Guidelines:**

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](http://www.eservices.gov.vg/gazette).
6. Cabinet decisions will be also available on [bvi.gov.vg](http://bvi.gov.vg) and on Twitter.