

14th Meeting of the Board of the Recovery and Development Agency (RDA) held on Thursday, 2 August 2018, at 10:00 am, at Conference Room A, Registry of Corporate Affairs, Pasea Estate, Tortola, British Virgin Islands

MINUTES

Members Present:

Mr. Clarence Faulkner (Acting Chair)
Mr. Clyde Lettsome
Ms. Sharie deCastro
Pastor Gregory George
Mr. Paul Bayly
Ms. Maria Mays

Apologies:

Mr. Robert Mathavious
Ms. Monica La Bennett
Dr. David Hancock

Outstanding Action Points from Previous Meeting

- Action Point #5: Mr. Lettsome to liaise with the Secretariat to arrange for a meeting to discuss prospects for the Tourism and Emergency Vehicles. This meeting is expected to be scheduled for September 2018 and an update will be provided at a subsequent meeting.

Actions

- Action Point #1: Mr. Smith to arrange pre-meeting with Permanent Secretaries (PS) to determine relevant issues to be discussed at meeting with RDA Board and to set a date and make arrangements for the meeting between all PSs and RDA Board after consultation with the Deputy Governor is completed.
- Action Point #2: The ITF to make the necessary arrangements for the IT facilities to be put in place as agreed by the RDA Board.
- Action Point #3: CEO to inform the Cello Group that the RDA cannot endorse their proposal.
- Action Point #4: CEO to negotiate terms for rental of space at IAC.
- Action Point #5: Board to seek formal confirmation from Government for \$900,000 annual commitment to operational expenses of the RDA.
- Action Point #6: Internal Audit be included on the RDA structure.
- Action Point #7: Secretariat to arrange for CEO to sign Oath of Confidentiality.
- Action Point #8: The Acting Chair to share document from the Premier's Office which separates the recovery projects into two categories (policy and implementation).
- Action Point #9: Mr. Smith to speak with the Budget and Macro Fiscal Units to determine what monies from the Government of the Virgin Islands may be available to assist with further extensions of the Debris Clearance Project.

Decisions

- Members agreed that, following the information received from the Cello Group and the meeting held on 26 July 2018, the proposal is not a matter that the RDA can action, but rather, a matter for the Government of the Virgin Islands. It was agreed that the CEO should communicate to the Cello Group that the RDA cannot endorse the proposal but would be willing to assist with anything infrastructure or recovery related to accelerate and support the process if it were to move forward.
- Members agreed that the RDA should negotiate terms on the rental of space with the IAC with a view to moving to the facility as soon as possible.
- It was noted that the proposed figures for RDA Board expenses (remuneration and travel) needed to be revised to adequately cover anticipated expenses. Members agreed to:
 - approve the three-year budget of \$13m in principle (following the revision of the proposed figures for RDA Board expenses), which will mostly be met by \$12.2m in committed funding from the UK and the Government of the Virgin Islands; and
 - seek formal confirmation from the Government of the Virgin Islands of the US\$900,000 per annum commitment to support the operational budget of the RDA.
- It was agreed that, even if there is not a need for an independent internal audit role at this time, it should be explicitly captured on the organisational chart at the onset and assigned to someone, perhaps the CEO, upfront.
- Members approved the organisational chart and staff positions to allow the recruitment of staff for the RDA.
- Members agreed that the ITF should remain in place until the desired individuals are formally contracted.
- Members endorsed the plan to refurbish the schools in the Territory by erecting temporary structures by September 2018.
- Members agreed that Mr. Hancock's initial visit to BVI should be a 3-4 day visit which allows for him to get additional understanding of the situation on the ground.