ACC/MIN/2016/1

MINUTES 1st MEETING OF 2016 THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION 15th FEBRUARY 2016 CONFERENCE ROOM, COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner of Police David BainesChairmanW. Norman BoddenMemberActing Auditor General Garnet HarrisonMemberActing Complaints Commissioner Bridgette Von GerhardtMember

APOLOGIES: N/A

ANTI-CORRUPTION UNIT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Oliver

Detective Inspector, ACU

Manager

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deborah Bodden

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am.

2. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the newest member to the Commission, Mr. W. Norman Bodden. He thanked him for his willingness to serve on the Commission. Mr. Bodden thanked the Chairman for his welcome and indicated that he was honoured to serve on the Commission and looked forward to working with the other members to meet the Commission's mandates.

3. New Business

a. Inclusion/Confidentiality Policy

All members were asked to review and sign the Inclusion/Confidentiality Policy. This policy sets out the requirements of members during the course of their duties to not release any confidential information to any person not on the Commission without permission.

b. Role of the Secretariat

The Manager explained the role of the Secretariat as it relates to the Anti-Corruption Commission, which mirrors that of the responsibilities to the other Commissions. These responsibilities include managing issues relating to staffing, budget, resources, etc. whilst providing administrative, research, and analytical support to the Commission. Members were also informed of the internal structure of the Secretariat.

c. Role of the Unit

The Senior Investigating Officer explained the role of the Unit as it relates to the work of the Commission. At this time there are four posts within the Unit and those are occupied by members of the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service.

d. Administrative Matters

i. Spokesperson

It was agreed that the spokesperson for the Commission is the Chairman and the Manager coordinates all interviews. As such no member should communicate with the media without having spoken to the Manager who will liaise with the Chairman and/or provide them with the necessary information.

ii. ACC Legislation

The Manager is working with the Honourable Attorney General to effect changes to the current legislation in order to ensure that any difficulties which have been faced during previous investigations/prosecutions. The changes will also address the two private members motions which have requested the removal of the three ex-officio members from the Commission. When an approved version of the amendments is made they will be forwarded to all members for review.

e. Training/Conference Opportunities

Members were informed that two training/conference opportunities had arisen. The first is to the Second Annual Commonwealth Caribbean Association of Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Trinidad from 29 February to 4 March 2016. The second is to the Ninth Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities in China from 10 – 13th May 2016. Unfortunately no members are available to attend either of these trainings/conferences.

4. Operational Update

The Commission received an update from the Senior Investigator on the 9 ongoing investigations being conducted by the ACU. The purpose of these updates is to provide the members with insight into the types of cases being handled by the ACU and as a result the levels of workload they are experiencing and the resources necessary to handle such workloads. Specific details such as names, locations, dates, etc. are included in a separate schedule due to security issues. Information shared with members is done so to ensure they are able to fully act in their capacity as an oversight body.

The Commission was informed that since inception (1st Jan. 2010) there have been 124 complaints registered by the ACC, of which:

- a. 13 are 'pending' awaiting further or sufficient information which may make it appropriate to make further investigations;
- b. 92 have been concluded;
- c. 10 have been transferred to other investigative units for action; and
- d. 9 are under current active investigation.

5. Report by the Auditor General

The Acting Auditor General provided a briefing of the concerns he is experiencing and investigating which relate to the Anti-Corruption Commission. It is noted that his office works

closely with the Anti-Corruption Unit in some instances and thus information is shared in a collaborative effort.

6. Any Other Business

a. Expression of Gratitude

The Commission wished to record its expression of gratitude to the members of the Anti-Corruption Unit as well as the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions on the recent conviction. The investigation and trial were both protracted and each party worked hard to ensure the successful outcome. The Senior Investigator indicated that he wished to submit the names of several persons in order to be considered by the Chairman for official commendations. The Commission agreed with this course of action.

b. Cayman 27 Interview

The Chairman will be attending an interview at Cayman 27 next week to briefly discuss the Commission and the importance of its work. This interview was requested by Cayman 27.

7. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

None identified at this time.

8. Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be determined (during the week of 7 March 2016).

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20p.

David Baines CHAIRMAN ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION