# National Roads Authority Minutes of the Eighty-Sixth Meeting of the Board of Directors held at Public Works Department Training Facility, 370 North Sound Road, George Town,

Grand Cayman, Tuesday, November 18, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Present:

**Colford Scott** 

Chairman

Troy Whittaker

**Deputy Chairman** 

**Barry Martinez** 

Mrs. Christine Maltman

Brian Ebanks Steve McField Darrel Rankine David Fawcitt

Designate Director - Min. DAW&GA

Brian Tomlinson

Managing Director

**Edward Howard** 

Deputy MD - Admin & Planning

Uche Obi

Senior Evaluation Officer

(Lands & Survey) – invited

**Denis Thibeault** 

Assist. Director - Transportation -

invited

Mrs. Lois A. Hall-Vaughan

**Executive Secretary** 

**Apologies:** 

Mrs. Pearlina McGaw-Lumsden

Ms. Levonne Ryan Justin Bodden Ronnie Dunn

Designate Director for Financial

Secretary

**Paul Parchment** 

Actg. Dep. MD – Eng. & Operations

(ill)

# 1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 1:06pm by the Chairman.

#### 2. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes with minor amendments were approved.

#### 3. Matters Arising

#### a. Draft Board Directives

This will be discussed at a later meeting.

# b. Proposal from Director S. McField

This was deferred to a later meeting.

## c. NRA Issues – Letter to the Hon. Minister

This is to be discussed at a later meeting.

#### 4. New Business

#### a. Compensation Claims

#### Blk 27D S. 23 (1) of the FOI Law (2015)

This claim is for land east of Hirst Road on which the extension of the East/West Arterial is proposed to be built. It is recommended that this claim be referred to the Roads Assessment Committee for a decision as compensation cannot be agreed on by negotiation.

The Chairman requested a motion be moved for this claim to be referred to the Roads Assessment Committee as recommended. The motion was moved by Director S. McField and seconded by Director D. Rankine it was then approved and accepted by the Board.

# Blk 23C S. 23 (1) of the FOI Law (2015)

A motion was moved by Director S. McField and seconded by Director D. Rankine it was then

approved and accepted by the Board authorizing Mr. U. Obi (Senior Valuation Officer – Lands & Survey Dept.) to offer this client CI\$41,556 as compensation for the claim for severance and CI\$152,372 in compensation for land taken.

# Blk 23C S. 23 (1) of the FOI Law (2015) East/West Arterial

This claim is recommended for referral to the Roads Assessment Committee as compensation cannot be agreed on by negotiation. The Chairman requested a motion be moved for this claim to be referred to the Roads Assessment Committee as recommended. The motion was moved by the Deputy Chairman T. Whittaker and seconded by Director D. Rankine it was then approved and accepted by the Board.

#### Blk 4E S. 23 (1) of the FOI Law (2015)

Only professional fees of CI\$337.50 are being requested to be paid as it was agreed that no compensation is due for land taken. A motion was moved by Director D. Rankine and seconded by Director S. McField it was then approved and accepted by the Board for the paying of professional fees of CI\$337.50.

The Board has requested that in future Mr. Obi outlines the details of the professional fees for each claim coming to the Board for review/approval.

### b. Access Management Plan – East/West Arterial

The MD informed that this Plan was approved in April 2008 by the previous NRA Board of Directors.

A letter from Broad Cam Ltd. signed by Director Mr. P. Campbell was sent to the NRA requesting an amendment to the current East/West Arterial Access Management Plan as it relates to Blk 23C s.23(1) to permit one in/ and one out only access points. Mr. Campbell also stated that at this point the current access plan calls for shared access points with Blk 23C s.23(1) and Blk 23C s.23(1) However discussions with the owners of these parcels have not been able to secure the indicated joint access points.

Mr. D. Thibeault informed members that this roadway is classified as a primary arterial roadway under the Roads Law (2005 revision) designed to carry large amounts of traffic with mobility of not less than forty miles per hour and access to which is permitted only by way of roundabouts, signal, collector roads or access roads, at access points approved by the Roads Authority. Given several factors it was determined that a minimal distance separation between any given access points would be about 375 ft. There are five (5) access points on this section of the roadway. In a traffic count undertaken in May this year, it was observed that this specific segment accommodates an average of approximately 19,200 vehicles per day on a typical week day. He noted that for this section all parcels located on the south side of the arterial also have an alternate means of access onto Prospect Point Road and that the latest condominium project located on 23C also respects the philosophy of the approved access management plan by sharing the existing means of access provided for the Lantern Pointe Development on 23C S. 23(1) He also noted that without adhering to the approved plan the intended objective and functions of the arterial will not be preserved and another "West Bay Road" situation will be in the making.

Mr. U. Obi noted that the issue of share access points needs to be revisited and that access points were granted in order to reduce the pay out on compensation claims.

Director S. McField noted that this area is an extension of the main town area and that the arterial has opened up the potential for development.

Director B. Martinez suggested that a motion be moved to amend the access points on the East/West Arterial Access Management Plan. The Chairman then requested the motion be moved which was done and seconded. Five members (Directors S. McField, B. Martinez, Brian Ebanks, Mrs. C. Maltman and the Deputy Chairman T. Whittaker) agreed with the motion and two (Director D. Rankine and Director Designate D. Fawcitt – Min. DAW&GA) objected.

The Board will continue to make a case by case decision for requests to amend the plan.

c. Fixed Contracts – Retirees & Expatriates/Succession Plan/Contract
The Designate from the Ministry noted that there are still fixed term contracts
for retirees and expatriates currently employed with the NRA and enquired if

these persons could be utilized as consultants if and when needed instead of being fully employed. The MD informed that a review will be done when the contracts are near the expiration date with a view that some employees may be used as consultants in the future.

Director D. Rankine advised that it was decided at the Personnel Subcommittee meeting to review these contracts with a view to possible hire as consultants.

Director S. McField enquired on the contracts that were soon be expired e.g. next year, what has management put in place as a succession plan? The MD advised that there will be a continuation of the downsizing exercise with the next step being the promotion of approximately six (6) persons to positions vacated by the retirees. Terms of Condition currently being prepared by Mr. G. Wood is to be presented to the Board and contracts and work permits are also currently being dealt with. There are also contracted employees who may or may not be needed. He also noted that there was a need for training of employees however no funds were available. He advised that the Ministry is currently in arrears (3 months) for invoices submitted by the NRA. The NRA recently received a check from the Ministry and this is just enough to possible carry on for another pay period.

The Personnel Sub-Committee needs to meet to discuss/review the MD's contract. Director S. McField expressed that he had concerns in regards to this contract and will discuss this further with the Chairman.

Director S. McField enquired on the directive issued by the Board to the MD in regards to a letter that is to be sent to the Immigration Department re allegations of forgery by the former HR. The MD advised that he met with the NRA's attorneys and they have been instructed to respond to the letter from the Director of Employment Relations and advise the Immigration Department of the alleged forgery.

Director S. McField thanked management for carrying out the directives of the Board re the layoff of staff. The MD informed that it was not a pleasant exercise, but it went smoothly and the meetings with staff and individuals were well prepared. He noted that management was currently preparing letters for the individuals that will advise of the pay and severance to be paid. Letters of redundancy with the final date of employment were done and delivered.

## Letter from Redacted under S.23(1) of the FOI Law (2015)

The Chairman noted a letter that was sent to him from this gentleman who was recently laid off requesting an extension of his term for one more year. This gentleman who is a expatriate earlier this year lost his home and vehicle in a fire (suspected arson) in Jamaica, hence his request as he now has nowhere to go on his return home. The DMD informed that he met with Mr. s.23(1) and advised that s.23(1) was requesting that his termination

be at the end of his previous contract (February 2010) and not December 2009 an extension of three (3) months without severance pay. The Board agreed to grant s.23(1) his request as informed by the DMD, i.e. he is to leave at the end of his contract (February 2010) with no severance pay.

d. Contract for S. 23(1) of the FOI Law (2015)

A proposal of work to be done was submitted by \$.23(1) The proposal would be for two (2) months at a fee of approximately CI\$9K per month with an option to renew. After a bit of discussion the Board agreed to make an offer to \$.23(1) for the period of three (3) months with a pay of CI\$7K per month with no pension and health benefits.

e. Managing Director's Report

It was noted that in this report a private road benefitted from a chip & spray overlay. The MD explained that in doing the Pavement Management this particular road was coded as a public road hence chip & spray was done on a section of it. He noted that the residents of the area became angry as they thought the road was downgraded but advised that it has actually improved.

f. Change of Date for Board Meetings

Directors requested a change of the date for these meetings from Wednesday afternoons to Tuesdays afternoons. The Board unanimously agreed.

5. Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be December 8, 2009.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm.

Signature

**Board Chairman** 

Confirmation of Minutes – 18.11.09

Date: 08.12.09

Signature

**Executive Secretary** 

Seconded: Confirmation of Minutes

Date: 08.12.09

