



CABINET MEETING

Office of the President

Ngerulmud Capitol | 9:08 am – 10:50 am

Monday, December 4, 2017

In Attendance:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. 2. Vice President Raynold B. Oilouch 3. Minister Faustina Rehuher-Marugg 4. Minister Charles Obichang 5. Minister Sinton Soalablai 6. Director Brian Melairei 7. Director Darnelle Decherong 8. Director Melson Miko 9. Postmaster General Timothy Sinsak 10. COS Secilil Eldebechel 11. DCOS Rebluud Kesolei 12. Peter Polloi, Airport 13. Kaleb Udui, Jr., Senior Economic Advisor 14. King Sam, Special Asst. to MNRET | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Exec. Director Keobel Sakuma 16. Grants Coordinator Judy Dean 17. Conrad Ellechel, MOF 18. Austin Gaylord, Legal Counsel 19. Daniel Klopper, Legal Counsel 20. Shelley Remengesau, Spec. Asst. to MOS 21. Nick Ngwal, Spec. Asst. on Maritime 22. Myers Techitong, PNCC HR. Mgr. 23. Mike Blesam, EQPB 24. Anthony Rudimch, PPUC Project Mgr. 25. Isebong Rengulbai, PPUC PIO 26. Norbert Villanueva, NDBP 27. Tetsuro Emesiochel, Media Info. Mgr. |
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Prepared by Rolynda Jonathan, Office of the President

AGENDA	DISCUSSION
Update from Japan Trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final trip for the month of December 2017. The trip was made by invitation of the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture. Hyogo is the first Japan prefecture to establish sister state relationship with Palau, as established by President Remeliik in 1982. Meet with representatives of All Nippon Airways (ANA). More charter flights expected next year. Large groups to visit during the state holiday honoring the Imperial visit to Peleliu. Invitation extended to Hyogo and Ibaraki Governors to visit Palau during that time. Minister of State and Education requested to follow up on opportunities available.
IT E-Readiness Assessment Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A survey form has been drafted to assist in identifying the capacity of government infrastructure and equipment for fiber optic high speed internet connection. The assessment team led by Conrad Ellechel of Ministry of Finance hopes to finalize and present a report in regards in Friday, December 8th. The survey aims to identify the current internet speed within Ministries and their E-Government initiatives that could be made available through high speed internet. The team is willing and available to assist Ministries with their surveys. Inquiry made of centralized system for a secured domain. The Ministry of Finance is looking into planning and implementation of such with the availability of high speed internet capacity.
Airport Terminal Expansion Basic Design Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister Obichang and Peter Polloi presented a short presentation of the draft basic design of the Airport expansion project. The design, if approved will then move on to the detailed design phase. The presentation highlighted the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Codes and standards, basic floor plans, the expansion of the parking lot, procurement process and completion image. The design was created in collaboration with Sojitz, JATCO, airport tenants and consultants over the course of the past couple of week. The design to expand and

	<p>improvement the existing Customs, Ocean View Lounge and Marine Resources areas. The 3-floor design to house offices, restaurants and shops, including areas accommodating the public to say their final goodbyes. Additional elevators to be added. The design will add 4 gates, implement a dedicated bus loading and unloading area. Passenger flow to be improved. VIP lounge to be expanded.</p>
<p>PPUC Progress Update of Water & Sewer Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Improvement Project installation and paving progress ongoing in Minatobashi and other areas. Project team met with CIP Office and Bureau of Public Safety to create a schedule for paving. Approval hours from 6:00 am – 9:00 am, then 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Sundays for paving. PPUC requests to pave on Thursday, December 7th. The President requests for the project to pave in the evening and over the weekend, and to avoid paving during the day. • Koror-Airai Sanitation Project (KASP) slowly progressing. Pipe damages over the past week caused three water outages. Concerns expressed of lack of equipment. Concerns expressed of delayed project may jeopardize the second phase of paving in Koror. The President requests for PPUC to seek ways to catch up on the project, consider working in the evenings and over the weekends.
<p>Progress Update from PNCC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNCC is preparing for the fiber lane to be launched on Thursday, December 7th. Public announcement of services to be made by the end of the day. PNCC to meet with Conrad Ellechel of Ministry of Finance regarding services to the government. The President reminds the public’s expectation is high. • PNCC to improve speed by 8 times. Conrad reports, so far, government equipment is capable of handling the speed. PNCC currently offers 128 kilobytes per second, with 8 times, capacity has increased 1 megabyte (MG). Suggestion made for PNCC to conduct a talk show for the public to have a better idea of services, speed and capacity of high speed internet made available by the fiber optic. • PNCC currently has 450MB with O3B. It was determined PNCC cannot get service less than what is provided by O3b, thus PNCC procured 2GB through fiber optic. HomeNet capacity increased to 2MB. Once fiber is online, PNCC to connect mobile services first, if there is any space left, PNCC to connect some of the cable channels from satellite to fiber connection.
<p>Ministry Briefings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of State: Two weeks ago, technical call meeting made with U.S. State Department regarding the Palau-Indonesia boundary matter. Palau is the next to call a consultation meeting. Austin to produce a communication to the State Department. PALARIS reports Indonesia has submitted the map of their boundary that falls into Palau’s. To put together committee members to implement \$1.3M of the JICA grant. All Directors have been named as members of the Committee. MOS COS and Judy Dean named as staff of the Committee. • Ministry of Health: Zero cases dengue fever for December so far. No specialists in December. Upcoming specialist missions in January for neurology, dental in February, eye in March and in April to bring the Pacific Partnership mission. On island radiologist set to begin in February. MOH also plans to conduct a community assessment to identify Palau residents to health services. • Ministry of Education: MOE and Director Tabelual to meet with all principals concerning some high school aged students who have exchanged inappropriate photographs on a messenger group for the past two months. MOE to conduct a talk show on Palau Wave to raise awareness in the community and with parents. • Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism: MNRET reports of legislation introduced by Senator Mariur to temporarily open a harvest season for maml and kemedukl. A meeting with MNRET and PICRC conducted in regards. Proposed dates is for November and December. The President states 2 months is too long. Start with one month and restrict for personal consumption only, no exporting and not for commercial sale. • Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs: The Children’s Christmas Program to be held in Ernguul Park from December 11, 12, 13 and then moved to Ngerulmud for December 14 and 15. The President requests for transportation assistance for Babeldaob to Ngerulmud program.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Justice: MOJ has increased the missing person reward from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Meanwhile, the MOJ continues to compile list for undesirable aliens.
Others/Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT Legislation: Austin is working with the Senate Legal Counsel in regards. The Senate reports to be completed by December 6th. Has passed 1st reading. The Senate approved of recommendations made by Minister Obichang. The HOD prepared to pass the legislation as approved. • NDBP Update: NDBP reports as of Friday, December 1, a total of 75 projects valued at \$1,161,767 loans has been approved. The President suggests for a meeting with the Board to discuss direction and plan moving forward in implementation the \$5 million loan program. • Palau Pledge: Legal responsibility in signing of the pledge question made. However, a passenger who refuses to sign the pledge will be placed in a watch list. Suggestion made to work with the OEK. • EQPB to receive grant from Japan Government grant to laboratory truck and accessories that will enable EQPB to provide community water testing and others. • Medalaii streetlights have been turned on. BPW has identified a few lights to be repaired and put online ahead of Christmas.
Reminders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Ministers are reminded to “follow up” and “think outside the box” on all initiatives. • All Ministers are reminded to note the following upcoming events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kraemar Volume Launching: Monday, December 4th - Ambassador and Consul Corps Reception: Tuesday, December 5th - BSCC Service Date Ceremony at the Museum: Thursday, December 7th - Palau Pledge Launching: Thursday, December 7th -

***Meeting minutes are subjected to change and approval**