

## MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room A35, ground floor, Parliament House, commencing at 8.17 am on Friday 18 December 1992. Members present: D'Arcy (until 10.02 am), Fenlon, Grice (from 8.18am), Hollis, Pearce, and Santoro (until 9.50 am). Also present: Mr Dahms and Mr Beh.

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 9 December 1992 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded D'Arcy.

### Matters Arising

Mr D'Arcy asked to have recorded in the minutes that at the Committee's last meeting he expressed his desire not to participate in the selection process for the appointment of the Auditor-General. **Granted.**

### Inward correspondence

1. Mr B M Rollason, Acting Auditor-General (14 December 1992)  
- Gold Coast Motor Events Co
2. Mr B M Rollason, Auditor-General (17 December 1992)  
- Indy Race insurance contracts.

**Resolved** (moved D'Arcy, seconded Fenlon) that inwards correspondence accepted.

### Business Arising

The Chairman referred the Auditor-General's letter of 14 December 1992 (second last paragraph) concerning the Office of Auditor-General being caught up in political issues. Discussion ensued concerning recent media articles relating to Committee business.

**Agreed** that Committee business must remain within the Committee and that consideration be given towards developing guidelines for reporting by Committee Members back to their respective Leaders/Parties.

### Outward correspondence

1. The Honourable W K Goss, MLA, Premier and Minister for Economic and Trade Development (9 December 1992)  
- Appointment of Auditor-General

2. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (11 December 1992)
  - Requesting further information concerning bank account/ledger reconciliation matter
3. Mr J Sinclair, Honorary Project Officer - Fraser Island Defenders Organisation (11 December 1992)
  - Response to matters referred to the Committee concerning the Government acquisition of Orchid Beach Resort
4. Messrs Fenwick, Varghese, Sutherland, Howard and Vayo, Dept of Primary Industries (17 December 1992).
  - Requesting confirmation of transcripts of meeting with Chairman and Research Staff (15 December 1992).

**Resolved** (moved D'Arcy, seconded Fenlon) that the outwards correspondence be adopted.

#### **Gold Coast Motor Events Co**

Minutes of the sub-committee meeting with the Auditor-General (11 December 1992) were confirmed (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce).

Mr Grice sought leave to table a document being his recollection of certain events which transpired at the 11 December 1992 sub-committee meeting. **Granted.**

Moved Fenlon, seconded pro-forma D'Arcy that in view of the acceptance of the report of the Sub-committee arising from its meeting with the Acting Auditor-General, further investigation into the Indy Car Race is not warranted at this point in time.

Discussion ensued and Mr Santoro asked that the above motion be withdrawn. **Agreed.**

**Resolved** (moved Santoro, seconded Grice) that the Committee notes the advice and reports of the Auditor-General to the Committee and resolves to seek advice from the Gold Coast Motor Events Co management as to what actions it has taken to address the systems deficiencies identified by the Auditor-General in his communications with the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts, viz:

- revenue control relating to on-site food and alcohol licensing arrangements
- poor control over alcohol stocks and associated procedures
- ticket sales revenue - specifically the failure by management to request audit certificates from the ticketing agent's auditors

- race insurance (Auditor-General's letter, 17 December 1992).

**Agreed that:**

- the Committee arrange to meet with Gold Coast Motor Events Co management on Tuesday 19 January 1993;
- Hansard record the meeting; and
- Gold Coast Motor Events Co management be specifically requested to keep the occurrence and agenda of the proposed meeting confidential.

**DPI - Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts**

The Chairman briefed Members on the progress of this inquiry. A transcript of the proceedings of the meeting between the Chairman, Research Staff and DPI senior staff on 15 December 1992 was distributed to Members.

**Auditor-General's First Report - Audits Performed for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 1992**

The Chairman advised the Committee that he had met with the Auditor-General on 17 December 1992 and discussed this report. The Auditor-General identified several items which would be worthy of Committee consideration. The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to the matters raised in this Report concerning the engagement of external consultants (pp 128-129). **Agreed** that research commence on this subject.

**Committee Budget**

Members noted the Committee's Budget statements for the period to 30.11.92.

**Agreed** that the Chairman write to the Clerk requesting the provision of a lap-top computer for the Research Director.

**Other Business**

- The Chairman advised the Committee that he and the Research Staff had met with the review team from Treasury concerning their review of external reporting requirements.
- Mr Fenlon suggested that the Committee should, at some point in time, look at audit and accountability principles pertaining to the administration of Government and Statutory Body contracts.

- **Agreed** that the media only be told that the Indy matter is continuing to be dealt with by the Committee and that the Committee has no further comment to make about it.
- Mr Grice sought leave to table a document being his record of the conversation during which he was threatened by a senior management official of the Gold Coast Motor Events Co. **Granted.**

### Next Meeting

January - date to be advised.

The meeting closed at 10.05 am.

Confirmed *18<sup>th</sup> January* 1993

Chairman

