



Supervisory Committee AGM Booklet 2021 Entry

The Supervisory Committee's role in The Bahamas Law Enforcement Co-operative Credit Union (BLECCU) is that of an internal auditor. Investopedia defines an internal auditor as 'one who has an independent and objective evaluation of financial and operational business activities, including corporate governance. One who is tasked with ensuring that companies comply with laws and regulations, follow proper procedures, and function as efficiently as possible'.

Sections 79 and 80 of The Bahamas Co-operative Credit Union Act 2015 along with sections 71-75 of the Byelaws of BLECCU highlight the duties and functions of the Supervisory Committee.

The Supervisory Committee in 2021 saw a shift in its leadership and committee composition. Former Chairman Charles Curtis passed the baton on to former Chairman Renaldo Toote who then passed the baton on to present Chairperson Aramantha J. Hepburn. Member Joel Hall was elected at the Annual General Meeting in July 2021. Regardless of the 'change of the guard', the Supervisory Committee met regularly, functioned effectively and performed its duties with the utmost professionalism.

Supervisory Committee	Attendance	Absent
Aramantha J Hepburn Chairman	6/6	0
Joel Hall Secretary	6/6	0
Renaldo Toote Member	6/6	0

In performing our statutory duties, the Supervisory Committee examined the books/financials regularly, confirmed properties and securities, and monitored the operations of the BLECCU. Notable areas of focus included:

Training

Throughout the year 2021, the BLECCU organized and facilitated several training sessions for Staff, Committee Members and the Board of Directors. These included the Financial Literacy and Corporate Governance and Fundamentals of Auditing Courses conducted by The Bahamas Institute of Financial Services (BIFS). The BLECCU's Compliance Officer also held an AML/KYC training and discussions of future training at CaribDE.

Delinquency

The Supervisory Committee noted that delinquency remained an issue throughout the year of 2021. Attorneys actively pursued a number of matters before the Supreme Court. Staff zealously contacted delinquent members to determine if they were still alive, interdicted, or within the jurisdiction to come in and make payment. However, despite the slight progress in obtaining funds from delinquent members, there is still much work to do in this regard.

Membership Services

- (i) Platforms
The Supervisory Committee noted that social media platforms i.e. WhatsApp and Facebook played an important role in attracting members and keeping members apprised of the activities of the BLECCU. However, the online platform is still a work in progress. The aforementioned is integral to business



activity as most retail and commercial banking facilities conduct services online.


- (i) **Loans and Debt Service Ratio (DSR)**
BLECCU's staff compiled a list of members' DSRs to determine if any assistance could be given. The exercise was not as successful as expected as members with high DSRs had existing loans at other banks and were unable to get any additional loans because they did not have any savings. The Supervisory Committee recommended that the BLECCU facilitate a financial literacy webinar for members.
- (ii) **Membership Drives**
The BLECCU held a membership drive with the Royal Bahamas Police Force. This initiative resulted in thirty-eight (38) new accounts opened in compliance with the requisite KYC/AML policy and procedures.

Inspections

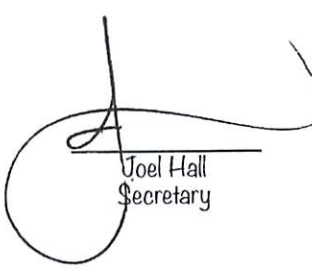
- (i) **Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) Files**
Fifty-one (51) PEP files were in the purview of the BLECCU. This total included thirty-five (35) members employed at senior levels in the public service, and sixteen (16) immediate members (i.e., spouses, parents, siblings and children) of their families. It was determined that included in the aforementioned numbers were four (4) Members of Parliament. The necessary due diligence was carried out at the time of on boarding. The BLECCU's PEPs were classified as 'High Risk' per regulatory Guidelines that mandate Enhanced Due Diligence (EDD) for such clients.
- (ii) **Grand Bahama sub-office Inspection**
The Supervisory Committee along with Mr. P. Ricardo King (Manager) travelled to Freeport Grand Bahama to inspect the sub-office. The inspection covered the office space, vehicle, review of financials, observation of COVID 19 protocols, interaction of staff with members and movement of members.

Conclusion

The BLECCU remains a viable entity despite the challenges of a recovering country due to the COVID 19 pandemic and other economic impediments. This success is due to the dedication and hard work of staff, management, the Board of Directors and Committee members. We are one team dedicated to providing the best financial services in this hemisphere. The Supervisory Committee would like to thank you the membership for your trust and confidence in the BLECCU.



Aramantha J. Hepburn
Chairperson



Joel Hall
Secretary



Renaldo Toote
Member