

Supervisory Committee AGM Booklet Entry for the Year 2023

In the Year 2023, the Supervisory Committee maintained its efforts to properly supervise the Bahamas Law Enforcement Co-operative Credit Union (BLECCU) in accordance with its statutory obligations as prescribed in The Bahamas Co-operative Credit Union Act and By-laws of 2015.

Committee Members	Attendance	Absence
Aramantha J. Hepburn-Chairperson	18/18	Nil
Gary Rolle - Secretary	17/18	One-work constraints
Clement Penn - Member	16/18	Two-work constraints
Chandra Ferguson – Internal Auditor	Optional	

The Supervisory Committee (SC) met regularly with the General Manager and other key staff, reviewed reports, monitored and made recommendations where necessary to the following business units:-

► **Corporate Governance**

The Board of Directors submitted its regular monthly minutes as prescribed by the Act. The SC observed the Board's usage of Special Call meetings noting that the workload had increased by virtue of regulatory and institutional demands. The SC noted the involvement of the Board's of sub committees (Human Resource, Finance, Education) which assisted in keeping the Board even more informed with the affairs of the BLECCU. There was consistent dialogue with the Board and SC through quarterly meetings, the annual strategic planning sessions, league updates, and implementation of new policies and procedures.

► **Finance (Accounting, Loans and Banking Services)**

The financial statements were reviewed monthly along with reports forwarded to the Central Bank of The Bahamas (CBoB) and the Saturday Banking services.

Additionally, the loan portfolio was reviewed specifically that of staff, committee and Board members. The SC commends the Credit Committee for its monthly reports that greatly assisted with providing information and statistics on the overall loan portfolio of the BLECCU.

► **Operations**

The SC was careful to monitor the Operations Department which includes:- the maintenance of the New Providence office and rental property, outsourced agreements, vault and petty cash services and payment of operating expenses. The SC noted the increased frequency in cash replenishment as membership increased and Saturday Banking was embraced by members.

‣ Compliance

The compliance function remains an integral part of BLECCU's risk management, legal and regulatory framework. The BLECCU has implemented policies and procedures (i.e. Compliance Manual) to address onboarding of new business; Know Your Customer (KYC) risk rating framework; monitoring of accounts for suspicious transactions; suspicious transaction reporting and the education, training and staff awareness of the Anti-Money Laundering, KYC, Countering of Terrorist and Proliferation of Financing. These policies and procedures protect the credit union from 'bad actors' who would seek to use the system to benefit from the proceeds of crime.

In addition to its regular reporting to the CBoB, the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and the Board of Directors, Compliance also assisted in the roll-out of the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) framework.

‣ Human Resources

The year 2023 was dynamic for the HR Department as it saw new hires, and promotions throughout the year. The BLECCU introduced the Risk Officer position which was a result of the aforementioned ERM framework. Training was ongoing both locally and internationally.

‣ Member Services

The SC monitored the onboarding of new members especially those which presented Affidavits of Relationship. The SC noted the BLECCU's continued commitment to assist officers on the Family of Islands through its transferring services, online banking and member-staff relationships. However, the SC noted the incomplete Fidelity Bank's credit and debit card initiative.

‣ Grand Bahama Office

The Supervisory Committee visited the Grand Bahama sub-office and conducted its annual inspection. The scope of the inspection included a physical inspection of the office space, the vehicle, an assessment of operational procedures and safety protocols with staff, review of policies and procedures, interviews with staff and members, and review of vendor agreements.

‣ Internal Audit

The SC is pleased to announce that the BLECCU saw the implementation of the Internal Audit function's special projects which included: (i) Business Continuity Planning i.e. mechanisms in place to support business for seen and unforeseen occurrences. (ii) Branch Audit i.e. assess the branch operations of the Nassau & Freeport offices to ensure compliance with company policy, and consistent with a best practice system of internal control. (iii) Risk Management i.e. assess and validate key controls in place to mitigate against risks.

‣ Investigation and Complaints

The SC conducted one investigation in the year 2023 which was concluded and handed to the Board for its further review and conclusion.

No complaints were received by the SC. However, members in Grand Bahama recommended that the \$500 deposit be increased and an ATM be installed.

► Conclusion

The brief summaries of each business unit above is only a snapshot of the work and efforts made by the SC in the year 2023. Our decision to meet more frequently was indicative of the level of commitment in addition to the increase in the regulatory demands and organizational growth. We are grateful for the Board's commitment and leadership in making pertinent decisions i.e. the support of hiring the IA and embracing the projects aforementioned. We are also grateful to the staff for their support and unwavering dedication to the BLECCU.

We are elated to conclude that 2023 was a year of vitality and transformation and look forward to an even more productive and collaborative 2024.



Aramantha J. Hepburn
Chairperson



Gary Rolle Sr.
Secretary



Clement Penn Jr.
Member