

*repealed by Sec. 24
of 7/48.*

CHAPTER 23. No. 15. 7/48.

GROUND PROVISIONS DEPOT.

Ordinance
No. 33—1935.

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BOARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING AND SELLING GROUND PROVISIONS, GREEN VEGETABLES, FRUIT AND OTHER MARKETABLE COMMODITIES.

Commencement.

[1st January, 1936.]

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Ground Provisions Depot Ordinance.

Establishment
of the Ground
Provisions
Board.

2. (1) For the purposes of this Ordinance, there shall be established a Board to be called the Trinidad and Tobago Ground Provisions Board which shall consist of a Chairman and four other members, to be appointed by the Governor in Council.

(2) The Board shall be a body corporate and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal which shall be officially and judicially noticed and the seal shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Chairman and one other member of the Board.

(3) The Board may sue and be sued in its corporate name but may, for all purposes carry on its business under the name of "Ground Provisions Depot."

Board to
carry on
Ground
Provisions
Depot
business.

3. The Board is hereby authorised to take over the assets and liabilities of the Ground Provisions Depot existing at the commencement of this Ordinance and to carry on and develop the trade and business of such Depot in ground provisions, green vegetables, fruit, livestock, poultry and other marketable commodities of similar nature or kind: Provided that the Governor in Council may by notice published in the *Royal*

Gazette authorise the Board to trade or deal in other goods and articles to be specified in such notice.

4. (1) The Board may purchase or otherwise acquire and hold any personal property required for the purposes of this Ordinance and may dispose of any such personal property.

Power of Board to acquire and dispose of property.

(2) The Board may purchase or otherwise acquire and hold and may take on lease any real property and any interest therein required for the purposes of this Ordinance.

(3) It shall be lawful for the Board with the consent of the Governor under the Public Seal of the Colony but not otherwise, to sell and alienate any real property or interest therein vested in the Board and to demise any such property or interest for any term exceeding ten years from the time when such lease shall be made. And it shall be lawful for the Board, without such consent, to lease or demise any real property for any term not exceeding ten years, provided the full rental value in respect of the same be reserved year by year on such lease or demise, and no premium be payable in respect of the same.

5. (1) The Chairman and other members of the Board shall hold office during the Governor's pleasure: Provided that upon the removal from office of any member the Governor in Council shall appoint another person to take the place of such member.

Appointment and removal of members of the Board.

(2) The Governor in Council may appoint any person to act in the place of the Chairman or any other member of the Board in case of his absence or inability to perform his duties as such chairman or other member.

Temporary appointments.

(3) The appointment and the removal of the Chairman or other member of the Board shall be notified in the *Royal Gazette*.

Notice of appointments.

(4) Three members shall constitute the quorum necessary to constitute a meeting of the Board. The Board may act by any three of its members, and may so act notwithstanding a vacancy in its number.

Quorum.

(5) In the absence of the Chairman the members present shall appoint one of their number to act as Chairman of any meeting.

Chairman.

(6) The Chairman of any meeting shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

Minutes of meetings of the Board.

6. The Board shall meet at such times as may be necessary or expedient for transacting the business of the Board. The Chairman or any three members of the Board may convene a special meeting of the Board. Minutes of each meeting in proper form shall be kept by the Chairman or secretary and shall be confirmed by the Chairman at the next succeeding meeting. Certified copies of such minutes when so confirmed shall be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary.

Remuneration to members of the Board.

7. (1) The Governor in Council may, with the approval of the Legislative Council, authorise the payment out of the funds of the Board of such sum or sums by way of remuneration or other allowance to the Chairman and other members of the Board, as he may think fit.

Appointment of officers and servants.

(2) It shall be lawful for the Board, to appoint at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions as it may determine the undermentioned officers—

(a) a general manager;

(b) a secretary; and

(c) such other assistants and servants as may be necessary and proper for the efficient management of the business of the Board;

and to require any officer or servant so appointed to give such security as may be deemed proper for the due execution of his duties.

Indemnity to members of the Board.

8. No personal liability shall attach to any member of the Board in respect of anything done or suffered in good faith under the provisions of this Ordinance, and any sums of money, damages or costs which may be recovered against them or any of them for anything done or suffered as aforesaid shall be paid out of the funds of the Board.

Funds of the Board.

9. The funds of the Board shall consist of such moneys as may accrue from the operations of the Board including moneys taken over from the Ground Provisions Depot existing at the commencement of this Ordinance and any moneys that may be borrowed by the Board.

10. (1) It shall be lawful for the Governor with the approval of the Legislative Council, by warrant under his hand, to authorise the Treasurer to make advances to the Board in such sums and on such terms and conditions as the Governor may think fit for the purposes authorised by this Ordinance.

Government advance.

(2) The Board shall not, without the previous consent in writing of the Governor, borrow any sum of money, or mortgage or pledge its assets for the repayment of any sum borrowed or owing by the Board.

Loans.

11. The funds of the Board shall be applied towards—

Application of the funds of the Board.

(a) the payment of the cost of acquisition of any land or building authorised to be acquired or constructed;

(b) the payment of rent of premises used by the Board in the carrying on of its business;

(c) the payment of all rates, taxes and insurance on any land, building or other property or revenue acquired by the Board;

(d) the payment of all expenses authorised by this Ordinance;

(e) the purchase of ground provisions, green vegetables, livestock, poultry and other marketable commodities;

(f) the repayment of advances received by the Board from the Treasurer and of other sums borrowed by the Board and the payment of interest thereon;

(g) the creation of a reserve fund as the Board may in its discretion consider sufficient.

12. The Board is hereby authorised—

Powers of the Board.

(a) to invest at its discretion in any securities authorised by law for the time being for the investment of trust funds any moneys forming part of a reserve fund;

(b) to establish depots or agencies for the purchase, sale and delivery of ground provisions, green vegetables, fruit, livestock, poultry and other marketable commodities, and to enter into contracts for the purchase, sale and transport of such commodities as are herein mentioned upon such terms and conditions as the Board may think fit;

(c) to act as commission agents for the disposal of the produce of any co-operative association;

(d) to pay gratuities to officers or servants on retirement from the service on such terms as may be fixed by the Board subject to the approval of the Governor in Council;

(e) to do all things needful for the development, preservation or maintenance of all land, buildings or other property which may be vested in the Board.

Accounts and books.

13. (1) The Board shall keep true accounts of—

(a) all sums of money received and expended by the Board and the matters in respect of which such receipts and expenditure take place;

(b) the stock in trade of the Board; and

(c) the assets and liabilities of the Board.

(2) The Board shall cause to be kept proper and sufficient books of accounts and other books in relation to its business, and such books shall be kept at the office of the Board and shall always be open to the inspection of every member of the Board and the Auditor.

Annual report and audit.

14. The Board shall furnish to the Governor as soon as possible after the expiration of each financial year a report upon the administration of the affairs of the Board together with a balance sheet and statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Board duly audited by the Government Auditor or such other Auditor as may be approved by the Governor in Council. The report shall be laid before the Legislative Council.

Repealed 7/48