REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI

SECOND COUNTY ASSEMBLY- SECOND SESSION

OFFICIAL REPORT

(THE HANSARD)

Thursday 14th May 2019

The County Assembly met at 2.40 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. George Ndotto) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURE AND RULES ON AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY STANDING ORDERS

The Speaker: Who is giving this notice? Hon. John.

Hon. John: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I would like to lay the following paper on the table of this Assembly. THAT Pursuant ...

(Hon. Kanandu stood in his place on a point of order)

The Speaker: Yes, Hon. Kanandu.

Hon. Kanandu: Hon. Speaker I stood on Standing Order No. 31, which requires a third of the House to be seated for us to transact any business.

The Speaker: Right, clerks-at-table it has been brought to my attention that we might not be having a quorum. Can you check whether we have a quorum?

(Hon John stood in his place)

The Speaker: Sit down Hon. John.

(Clerks-at-the table confirmed that there was no quorum)

The Speaker: Sergeant-at-arms, ring the bell.

(The bell was rang for five minutes)

The Speaker: Clerk—at-the table, can you check whether we have a quorum?

(Clerks-at-the table confirmed that there was a quorum)

The Speaker: We can now continue. Hon. John, can you proceed?

Hon. John: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I rise to lay the following paper. Mr. Speaker Sir, THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 179(6), 187(3), 233 and 234, I beg to lay the following paper on the table of the County Assembly, today Tuesday 14th May, 2019. The Report by the Committee on Procedure and Rules on the amendment to the County Assembly Standing Orders. I beg to lay the paper.

NOTICE OF MOTION

MOTION ON ADOPTION OF THE REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURE AND RULES ON AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY STANDING ORDERS.

The Speaker: Hon. John, you can now read the notice.

Hon. John: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, further I rise to give a notice of motion. Motion on adoption of the Report by the Committee on Procedure and Rules on amendment to the County Assembly Standing Orders. THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order nos. 179(6), 187(3), 233 and 234. The Report by the Committee on Procedure and Rules on amendment to the County Assembly Standing Orders be approved. I beg to give the notice of the motion.

The Speaker: I am afraid Hon. Members, we had only that business this afternoon. That is what was on the Order paper, there is no any other business. Hon. Jane, you want to say something?

Hon. Jane: Hon. Speaker, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to say something. It is very unfortunate to be coming here and find that there is no business to transact while we have so many pending businesses at the committee level, pending business in our offices. Can something be done so that we can start generating businesses of the day Hon. Speaker, because is like there is complains from the electorates that we are doing nothing?

As you may be aware, nothing is happening on the ground and they are not hearing anything from the Assembly. Thank you very much Hon. Speaker and let's do what is supposed to be done.

The Speaker: Hon. Nguli

Hon. Nguli: Thank you Mr. Speaker...

(Hon. Kanandu stood on a point of order)

The Speaker: Yes, Hon. Kanandu.

Hon. Kanandu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am just rising on a point of a concern,

whether Hon. Nguli is properly dressed to address the House?

The Speaker: Hon. Nguli, can you put on the jacket.

(Hon. Nguli groomed himself)

Hon. Nguli: Hon. Speaker, I am just dressing properly; obeying your instruction.

The Speaker: Order! Hon. Nguli.

Hon. Nguli: Thank you Mr. Speaker for guiding me. I am also rising on a point concern. Kindly Mr. Speaker, some of us who come to this House fully equipped and ready to discharge the mandate, especially on legislation, are sort of getting disappointed and almost frustrated when we find no business to transact. It is something that has being recurring, we have raised it in front of you and you are aware. We don't know where the problem is really.

The Speaker: I will tell you. Hon. Nguli: You will tell us?

The Speaker: Yes.

Hon. Nguli: It is better if you tell us because we are getting disappointed. We have a lot of pending work. We need to discuss the House Business Committee which allocates business for the House. We might blame the Speaker but the problem could be the House Business Committee which seems incompetent. Mr. Speaker the frequent lack of business for the House is really disappointing.

The Speaker: Hon. Munuve.

Hon. Munuve: "Taking debate to the next level". I think that is the slogan which was used to open the new Chambers but the only difference from KEFRI Chambers to our new County Assembly chambers is the seats which changed to red but debates still remain where they were before. Mr. Speaker you need to tell us whether the committees' members are not generating businesses.

I know very well there are so many reports which are supposed to be tabled and debated in this Hon. House. Does the slogan still hold water? Are we moving to the next level or we are still in the same position?

I think this is the third week and also in every week there is a day when we don't have business to transact. Mr. Speaker, this is a song, you have sang in the first Assembly and in this second Assembly, you have not changed even the tune. It still remains next Order, next Order. Mr. Speaker until when will this change? Thank you.

The Speaker: Hon. Mwalali.

Hon. Mwalali: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, Mr. Speaker, you are aware that Kenya is a democratic Country and Kitui is part of Kenya. You have deliberately, illegally or through illegal means denied Kitui people information for almost one month.

We are debating here, without the media representation and we don't understand when you deny the Kitui people information, what is your intention? And what are your future plans to make sure that the Kitui people have full information on the operation of this House. Thank you.

The Speaker: Hon. Katana do you have something to say?

Hon. Katana: Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. I stand also to register my disappointment. I belong to thel Health Committee and I thought today we would have serious issues debated in the Assembly. I think last week it was put very clearly that the Health Committee will have an inspection tour but it was cancelled after report emerged that the committee on lands and a few members who went overseas will not be present and the House will lack quorum.

I think we insist to have a quorum so that we can discuss important matters concerning our people. Mr. Speaker I went down to calculations because I was good at mathematics. The members who are out from the LIUD Committee are eleven, we have six members who are overseas, totaling to seventeen and then we had the remaining eight members from the Health committee totaling to 25 members.

You will find that if the Health committee was to proceed with the inspection tour. There would be enough members in the House to transact the business. The business committee sits twice in a week and their business is just to allocate businesses for this House. It is important for them to ensure that we have business in this house so that our electorates can hear members discussing issues in this Hon. House to make sure services are well delivered to them and I hope this wouldn't be repeated again in this house. Thank you.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, we are in a very unfortunate situation of next Order, next Order because there is no business. We must find out where the problem is, to stop next Order, next Order. In an endeavor to find out why we are not having business, I asked for the list of the pending reports and what stage they are in. So that we can know where the problem is, unfortunate I will tell you the truth.

The problem is with the committees and if you want, I will read next Thursday the list of all pending reports or matters before this House and at what stage they are in and you will find that 90% are with the committees and I have told the chairman of liaison committee "please can you tell the chairs to hurry up the businesses", because like this morning, the house business committee had nothing to allocate.

We looked round on what we should but we had no business to allocate. I don't know whether we were told the right information that there was business to allocate or not but those who were with me in the House business committee. We were told that there was absolutely nothing to allocate and I have been given that list, this afternoon and the best thing is to read it next Thursday to this house. To see each report is and at what stage.

There is nothing pending with the House Business Committee and the Speaker's office...

(Hon. Musili stood in his place)

The Speaker: Yes Hon. Musili.

Hon. Musili: Thank you Mr. Speaker. As much as we want everybody to take responsibility in their failures and the committees are mentioned, there is also failure within the system in your office. There are so many private members motions which are in your office including the one I brought and its now going to third month. We don't know where it is Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we know the Auditor General's report for the year ending June 2018 was delivered in your office on December, 2018 but up to today, you have not tabled that report. That is a report which can give us business for the next three months.

I think we have a problem in the entire system that needs to be looked into thoroughly. So as you read them on Thursday, also read the ones pending in your office and the ones which are being held by the Committees so that we can know who is holding back the larger share of the business of this House. Thank you.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I have no interest keeping anything in my office which is supposed to come in to this House. The Auditor's report doesn't talk about the Speaker or the

office of the Speaker. I will read to the House what is pending and it is at what stage and please let us not hide the truth.

The truth of the matter is that the Committees need to pull up their socks and the chairpersons need to be told that because most of the reports are still pending at the Committee level. Some of them as old as last year and the best thing is to hear where each matter is including that one Hon. Musili was talking about.

I think that is not a matter to discuss .I just wanted to inform you. I will read the list to you on Thursday and then you will tell me if there are some missing.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: Hon. Members the House now stands adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9.00 a.m.

The County Assembly rose at 3:10 a.m.
