REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 19th August, 2020

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.00 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, can you confirm whether we have the quorum?

(Lack of Quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Serjeant at Arms to ring the Quorum bell.

(The bell was rung for two minutes)

Speaker: Do we have quorum?

(Quorum confirmed)

COMMUNICATON FROM THE CHAIR

MEMBER'S KAMUKUNJI CONCERNING HOUSE BUSINESSES

Speaker: Hon. Members, I have an issue to communicate. This goes back to last week. As you remember, we had said that we are going to have a *Kamukunji* as far as the business of the House is concerned. I said that it will be this week so that we give the Clerk Assistants time to have a meeting ahead of us. We can then have one meeting for all of us, the Members including the committees and also the committee clerks so that we deliberate on the business of the House.

I know that each one of you has an order paper. The order paper does not record any business for this sitting. That will be very unfortunate if we are not able to bring business to the House. The committees do sit regularly. We then need to ask ourselves where the business that is transacted at the committee level ends up to. Do the committees hold those businesses or do the committees lack quorum to sit or what exactly happens?

Come in Hon. Suge, I want to bring to your attention that some of the pending businesses as I read them last week. From what we got last week there are a few businesses that are here as pending business but they have already been brought to the House. In such a case if yours is read, I believe you can also be able to dispute in the HANSARD record so that it is not registered as a pending business: -

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1) There was a petition by a resident of Nyahururu, Igwamiti Ward concerning discrimination against the use of public land. That was committed to the Committee on Finance and County Planning on 4th December, 2018. It was supposed to be discussed by 4th February, 2019 and it was considered last month on 1st July, 2019. That one is done.

2) There was a petition by the residents of Mouwarak area in Sosian Ward pertaining to allocation of plots in Mouwarak Centre. Committed to the same Committee of Finance and County Planning on 26th November, 2019. The due date was 26th January, 2020. It is like it has not yet come to the House. Has it? It has not yet been responded to.

3) There is a petition by the residents of Ngei Estate, Nanyuki, regarding the planned eviction of tenants in Laikipia County Government houses. Still to a joint Committee of Finance and Infrastructure, it was laid on 11th March, 2020. It has not yet been responded to.

4) The last petition is a petition by Laikipia Bar Owners Association concerning liquor licences for the year 2020, for all bars and restaurants that remain closed. This was committed to a joint Committee of Finance and Labour. It was committed on 8th July, 2020 and it was supposed to be done with by 5th August, 2020. It is like it is yet to be done.

Those were four petitions. We then have the reports: -

1) We have a report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of Nanyuki Water and Sewerage. That was done.

2) We had another report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of County Executive of Laikipia for the year ended 30th June, 2016, committed on 7th November, 2017. It was supposed to be finalised by 7th February, 2018, by CPAIC. It is not yet done.

3) We also have a report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of Nyahururu Water and Sanitation Company Limited for the year ended 30th June, 2016, CPAIC. It was laid on 17th November, 2017 and it was supposed to be completed by 7th February, 2018. It is not indicated as done so it is still pending.

4) First quarter National Government Budget Implementation Review report for the Financial Year 2017/2018, from the Office of the Controller of Budget. Budget and Appropriations Committee 22nd March, 2018, was that done?

5) The County Government's Budget Implementation Review report for the First Quarter Financial Year 2017/2018, from the Office of the Controller of Budget. That was committed to the Budget and Appropriations Committee. It is not yet done.

6) Nanyuki Municipal Charter, Finance and County Executive Planning Committee. It was committed on 4th July, 2018. Not yet done.

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7) We have the Nyahururu Municipal Charter, still on the same date of 4th July, 2018, by the Finance and Planning Committee, not yet done. We have the Health Services Annual Departmental report for the Financial Year 2017/2018.

Hon. Ndiritu come in. That was committed to the Health Services Committee and laid on 7th August, 2018, not yet done. Laikipia County Annual Development Plan, Budget and Appropriations Committee on 25th September, 2018.

I may not be able to go through the whole thing. It goes all the way to number 68. These are reports. We have four petitions and 68 reports. Of those 68 reports, a few of them like ten, have been dealt with. We still have like 54 pending reports. Statements have been dealt with accordingly but only a few in which the days have been given. I believe it is important for us to realize that we have that workload to undertake.

Quite a number of the statements have been done. It is only a few that have not yet been done. We are not doing so badly for the statements. We have those petitions, that huge number of about 60 reports and the statements. It is important for us Members to remember that. If we are not looking at these reports or that they have been looked at by the committee and they have not come to the House, it then means that we have not completed our oversight work. It means that the Executive might be running without being oversighted by the County Assembly as expected by the public or even by the Law.

At the same time, as Members we are also supposed to come up with motions. This is because the way we represent people is by speaking on their behalf. Somehow, Laikipia seems to be a little bit comfortable and quiet unless we are not speaking on their behalf. It is for us to do that because it is our work. Let us look at these statements, petitions and reports.

As I had said before, we will be having the *Kamukunji* today after the afternoon Plenary. We can deliberate together with the Committee Clerks what exactly is not happening. Is it that there is a business and maybe Members have not had time to sit and sign for that report to come? Is it that we have not been able to go out to the field to confirm some things? Or what exactly is the problem?

We must all sit together and see what the main issue is. This is so that we do not have a day like today whereby we come to the House yet we do not have any business in the order paper. It is important for us to look at that. We do execute our mandate as a House as mandated by the constitution and by the people of this country. We are the representatives of the people. The people have chosen a few of us on their behalf to do what they are unable to do. It is important for us to take this one seriously.

I want to invite all of you for that particular *Kamukunji* in the afternoon. This is so that we can have a sitting among all of us, the Members as committees. We will get to know the issues affecting us. Let me give an example with Hon. Ndiritu, to work so well in the Trade Committee

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where he Chairs but the same Member is not bringing business through another committee that he belongs. We are also nearing the end of term for some committees in next month.

We need to ask ourselves, is it the issue of passion or was I put in a committee where I feel this is not what I would really want to engage in. For example, I was put in trade but my passion is in agriculture. We should be truthful to ourselves. You are doing whatever you do in that particular committee on behalf of many others.

It may require us to fit a Member where he feels that he has a passion. My passion is on things to do with health, you give me agriculture *na hata kwa masomo sikutaka mambo ya Agriculture na hata sikufanya notes, weka mimi kwa health.* We deliberate at that level so that we do not have to have some of these pending businesses.

We need to ask ourselves questions so that we get solutions. What is exactly happening? Is it that the finances are not enough? If the finances are not enough, is it that we are not passionate? Is it the membership? At times a Chair may say that I have always been calling for these meetings but Members do not come, therefore, I am unable to continue as the Chair. Maybe the committee may say that the Chair never calls for meetings and all those kind of things.

We need to sit and talk to ourselves so that we are able to deliver on what we came here to deliver. Thank you so much. The venue of that meeting will be communicated later today in the afternoon sitting.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: This House now stands adjourned until later today Wednesday, 19th August, 2020 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 9.22 a.m.

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