

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MANDERA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 14th July, 2020

*The House met at the Assembly Chambers
County Assembly Buildings, at 2.33 p.m.*

[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow) in the Chair]

PRAYER

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Sergeant-at-arm, ring the bell for ten minutes.

(Quorum bell rang)

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Okay, the ten minutes are over, sergeant-at –arm, ring the bell for another five minutes.

*(Quorum bell rang for a further
five minutes)*

PAPERS LAID

COUNTY GOVERNMENT ANNUAL BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW REPORT 2018/2019
COUNTY GOVERNMENT ANNUAL BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW REPORT, FIRST QUARTER
2019/2020

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Leader of Minority! Hon. Hindia.

Hon. Hindia Hussein (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I am representing the Leader of Minority.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I beg to lay the following papers on the table of the County Assembly today Tuesday 14th July 2020, at 2:30 p.m.

1. County Government Annual Budget Implementation Review Report Financial year 2018/2019.

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2. County Government Budget Implementation Review First Quarter Financial year 2019/2020.

Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Next Order!

STATEMENTS

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Leader of Minority? Leader of Majority! House Business Committee! Yes honorable Kulow.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I want to bring to your attention that today is not Wednesday. So, the issue of majority and minority will be a topic for tomorrow. I want to raise a concern in this House that this Assembly seems to have outlived its usefulness because since we came back from recess, it is like we are just clock in and clocking out and many times we have been lacking quorums in the House. I want to take this blame right to the doorsteps of the Whips. Today we have wasted over 13 minutes waiting for quorum and the person who is actually supposed to make sure that the House get quorum himself has been whipped from outside and that is the Whip for Jubilee party. He has been whipped from outside by the Whip of Economic Freedom Party (EFP) while he is supposed to make sure that the honorable Members are in this House at the right time. The Whips are sleeping and they should wake up.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Which point of order honorable Adan?

Hon. Adan Maalim Abdullahi (Township): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker for giving me this opportunity. We are the representatives of the people of the thirty wards. We should not be following people like school children. When there is special business we do whipping but on normal circumstance like this we whip members who are within the precincts of the Assembly but transporting somebody from way he is up to here, when there is no important business, is not one of the functions that I am supposed to serve in this House.

On the other hand, the whip for Jubilee, my colleague, he just reported like any other Member. I did not transport him from where he was. Madam Temporary Speaker, if Members are failing in their responsibility of attending the sessions, it should not be blamed on us.

Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi (Takaba): Point of order Madam Temporary Speaker!

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Yes, honorable Bishar.

Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi (Takaba): Madam Temporary Speaker, I think it is not in order for a whip who is supposed to ensure that the House has to have quorum and he is earning heavy allowance on that responsibility, to tell us that he cannot use transport to whip people. I think honorable Adan, as a whip of the majority party, you cannot tell this honorable House that you cannot mobilize people to ensure that the agenda of this House is achieved.

Hon. Adan Maalim Abdullahi (Township): Point of order Madam Temporary Speaker! You are misquoting me.

Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi (Takaba): Madam Temporary Speaker, they should stop interrupting me until I finish. I think we have a mandate and since even His Excellency the President of Kenya has now signed the recall of an MCA, I think honorable Adan is not in touched with what is going round the country and if he is going this way, I think he might be the

first person to go home. What I am saying is, let us take full responsibility and prove prudently that these allowances we are earning from the Tax payers money is actually met to the latter.

Hon. Adan Maalim Abdullahi (Township): Madam Temporary Speaker, if there is anybody to go home, I am 24 hours in my ward for the last three years.

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): Point of order Madam Temporary Speaker!

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Member for Waranqara.

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Let me say this, for the honorable Member to say we have a quorum problem is a fact we cannot deny. It is a fact that committees were not operational for the last one week and in this chamber we have quorum hitches. He is a chair of a committee. Why has he not taking responsibility for the failure of his committee for lacking quorum for the past one week if it is the whips to ensure the quorum.

Secondly, it is not me as the whip for the Jubilee party my role is to ensure discipline within the party and it is not must for me to frog match people to the Assembly. He should get clearly. I have no mandate to force Members to the Assembly. This is the House of rules and procedures and these are honorable Members. We cannot force Members to attend the Assembly and as far as I am concerned, I came from six kilometers from the premises of the Assembly and I am not being forced to come to the Assembly. So, he should withdraw that I have been forced to come to the Assembly. He should withdraw that statement.

Hon. Abdi Hassan (Malkamari): Point order Madam Temporary Speaker!

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Yes.

Hon. Abdi Hassan (Malkamari): Madam Temporary Speaker, I think what honorable Kulow raised is the fact. Let us not deny it. Lack of quorum in the plenary and also in the committees is what is hampering this Assembly. Let us accept the reality. So, who is to be blamed is the leadership. If you are a leader and you are the majority and the minority whip and you are told that we are lacking quorum, the only thing you could have said is, you could have begged the honorable Members to avail themselves on time and you could have pulled up your socks and try to whip other honorable Members but not denying.

The Majority Whip, when he was speaking, his feelings are already on his face. He is an angry man. I do not know why he should be angered. I think the attention of the Speaker is already raised. It is the norm of this Assembly that when an honorable member is speaking other honorable members normally interrupt. Let us respect one another. Listen to one another; listen to the views of others and accept them. What I am saying is that when a honorable member speaks and you are a leader then you want to interrupt and speak twice or thrice. If you want to answer all what the honorable members are saying, then you are jumping to answer other honorable members. It is not the norm of the honorable member.

My conclusion is that I urge the honorable members to avail themselves on time; it is our responsibility. Our honorable Whips should pull up their socks and bring honorable members on board. The utterance by the Minority Whip saying that his role is only to whip is wrong. He should mobilize his Party Members to avail themselves in time. We have only honorable Hindia Hussein who is Jubilee Member in this House before he came in and again he is the person speaking that way. So, take responsibly and bring honorable members in time. That is my take.

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): Is he right to allege that Jubilee members are only one? Honorable member from Kutulo and Khalalio are here and he should not mislead the House.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): Sometimes back there was a ruling in this House. NARC members are no longer in Jubilee Party. Therefore, referring to NACR member as a Jubilee Member then the honorable member is wrong and he should withdraw that. They are not, as per the ruling of the Speaker. So, I just go back to my earlier statement. Thank you for giving me the chance. If there are any habitual absentees in this House, then they are the whips of this House.

(Applause)

The Whip for Economic Freedom Party (EFP) is a habitual late comer and habitual absentee. He comes from Mandera Town. While he is supposed to whip the members to come to the House, we are always whipping him to come to the House. The role has reversed.

Hon. Adan Maalim Abdullahi (Township): I think the agenda of discussing me in this House as an absentee is not supposed to be the case. I came on time. I was out mobilizing and whipping. I have never missed one plenary and committee. Misleading the members in this House should not be entertained.

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): You should not entertain people who are angered.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): There was unparliamentarily language which was just used. The honorable Whip who is supposed to lead by example. He has used unparliamentarily language and he should withdraw before I continue.

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): Unless he apologizes, he is describing us as habitual absentees while we have never missed a sitting.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): The word nonsense should be withdrawn.

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): He should also withdraw habitual absentees.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Since it is being raised by an honorable member, can you withdraw that statement?

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): I will withdraw reluctantly and you should not give room to members. Anger should not be directed to the Whips. You should control them.

Thank you. I think I said I withdraw reluctantly.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): That is an abuse to the Chair.

Hon. Ahmed Gabnan (Waranqara): Withdrawn.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Proceed Hon. Kula Alio.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): Madam Temporary Speaker, why I am a worried man is that we are using taxpayer's money. I am just on the issue of the quorum. Nobody has raised that and it is you raising it.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): You need to restrain yourself.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): Ok. Some of us ages are catching up with us. And we are just reluctantly standing and I don't know whether he has a back problem. You can excuse him because he is above 58 years.

Madam Temporary Speaker, we are using taxpayer's money. We are earning salaries and allowances to come and attend the plenary. If we are not going to use the money as per the laid down rules and regulations, then we are dishonest to the people of Mandera County. Therefore,

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when I was putting the blames on the Whips, as the honorable member for Takaba said, they are earning heavy salaries of being the Whips of this House. They should avail this issue in the forums so that they mobilize the honorable members to attend the House. There are many businesses which are pending.

The other day there was a ruling here where NARC-K were told to bring Minority Whip, if I am right. So, there are many things---

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): I am still advising you. Kindly stick to the statement that you raised.

Hon. Kulow Alio (Rhamu): I want the Whips to take up their responsibility and I want the Leadership of the House to take up responsibility because the Minority Leader is in town, and it is only Majority Leader who is absent and he should have laid some of the Papers laid by Hon. Hindia Hussein. Let us move forward.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Honorable Member, have a seat. I think on the issue raised by honorable Kulow Alio, it is an important one. It is important that the members observe decorum in the House. I have heard you, honorable Kula. You have raised an important issue and let us adhere to it. The Whips need to be serious.

Next Order!

ADJOURNMENT

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Now that we are done with the business of today, I now adjourn the House to Wednesday, 15th July, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.