

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

SECOND ASSEMBLY – FIFTH SESSION

Wednesday, 2nd June, 2021

House met in the Main Chamber at 9:00 a.m.

(The Speaker (Hon. Elisha Jack Oraro) in the Chair)

PRAYERS

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, pursuant to the provisions of County Assembly Standing Order No. 32 (2), I want to request under that the Serjeant-at-Arms to ring the quorum bell for five minutes.

(Quorum bell rung for five minutes)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Could a Member confirm if we have the required quorum.

Hon. Samo: Mr. Speaker, we have quorum. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Thank you. Mr. Clerk, kindly take us through the Order Paper of the day.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!!

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, welcome to this session. This is a very important session but I want to request that we adhere to the Ministry of Health Protocols on Covid

19 Pandemic. Hon. Members, I just want to remind you that, before you enter the precincts of this Assembly ensure that you put on your mask which should cover both your nose and mouth for your safety and that of your neighbor. If you are using the portable microphone, please ensure that it is sanitized before and after use. Otherwise, welcome.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!

STATEMENTS

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Guya.

Hon. Guya: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am rising on Standing Order No. 42. I want to say that as a resident of Kisumu, we were very happy to host the Madaraka Day celebration. I want to thank the Members who attended the function. You have just talked about the Covid-19 and it is true the virus is still here with us. How I wish it is the priority of the Assembly to provide masks to staff and the Members so that we don't find somebody using a mask twice. Please make arrangements so that we have the masks.

Above that, we were so excited yesterday at the Mamboleo Stadium when Osito Kale carried the day. We were very excited. Otherwise, thank you. We are happy.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, what Hon. Guya is saying is very key. I want to say that the issue of mask is very key and even the government said that every citizen should ensure that he/she makes it a priority to have the mask. If you can't have it, then improvise yours.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Roy Samo.

Hon. Samo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am rising on Standing Order No. 42, I want to thank you for enabling us to participate in this Madaraka Day Celebrations and also representing us very well because you were at the fore front at the Marine School. We were given the responsibility to mobilize people and I took two thousand people and I would one day give you the clip of what happened there. They were canned properly. Mr. Speaker, what they witnessed yesterday, they were thoroughly beaten and it was difficult even to go near. So, they thought that because this is celebration is happening in Kajulu, they would be allowed free entry into the venue. I believe that, they never even saw the President. This is because they were chased away.

Mr. Speaker, as I rise to give my Personal Statement. Foremost, I would like to convey my appreciation as I had reiterated before. Secondly, the matter of information dissemination as we are channeling it out that next time, we need to be cautious because if we are so placid with information sometimes it may lead to a lot of issues that may really affect us. Again, when this kinds of events are brought to this County, we request that we be furnished with two invitation cards each so that we attend such sessions with our spouses and our children. Mr. Speaker, again what I witnessed yesterday was embarrassing because when you come with your better-half, don't

forget that this event is happening in your Ward and you want to flaunt to others about that, this is an event that is happening in your Ward and you want to let them know that you are the boss of the Ward. Mr. Speaker, it is really humiliating being chased away with your spouse, is a bitter pill to swallow and I believe that next time we need to improve on that.

Mr. Speaker, all said and done. Another Statement would be that, if the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriation is retreating to Mombasa County to interrogate key issues in the Estimates. I request that we have a General Oversight Committee retreat as we have put forward our proposal. This is because we need to look at issues as Projects Implementation in our jurisdictions that we had raise with respective Department, they were not handled to our expectations and this retreat will enable us delve deeper into it. I request that you grant us leeway that we move out tomorrow. Mr. Speaker, if retreating to Nairobi County will be difficult, then, Vihiga or Uasin Gishu County would be ideal. Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir and May the Almighty God Bless You immensely.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, before I give the next speaker, Hon. Samo. It is important to note that Madaraka Day Celebrations is a National Function and not a County Function. If you were keen, you heard and I believe it was Hon. Guya who stated that you were not present during the event because I was not keen to note who was present and who was not. So, if you could have been present, I believe that you consult with Hon. Guya and he will tell you that, it was only the Governor, Kisumu County who was the host and he was the only county official given the opportunity to talk. Not even a Member of Parliament, Senator or any other Governor and not even the Chairperson, Council of Governors, Mr. Wambora. It was only the Governor, Kisumu County who welcomed the guests to Kisumu County but it was purely a National Government Function. Therefore, it would not be in order to request or demand that you be given two invitation cards.

Hon. Members, I want to say sorry for the unfortunate events that transpired that day in Marine House. I can confirm that, there was constant communication between me and the organizers of the event and that is why I sent you the texts that you are all invited because there was limited time to print the invitation cards. Therefore, it was suggested that, names be forwarded to the Security at the Entry Gates including the ID numbers, phone contacts so that when you present your IDs you will be ushered in. Hon. Members, unfortunately that person who was in-charge of the County guests was still engaged somewhere due to the continuous changes in the program of the President when he was here. The whole idea was that at 02:00 p.m. to 02:30 p.m. he was to go straight to the Marine School but this was changed and he had to go to the Shipping Yard earlier before that. Therefore, the person who was in-charge of guest for Kisumu County had to go to the Shipping Yard and again as a result of the communication network problem, we were not able to communicate and that is what transpired. So, it was not the duty of the Speaker to usher in guests from Kisumu County, but there was somebody that was given that duty to perform. It is highly regretted and this even affected the Members of Parliament. I met the MPs and they were really in

foul moods as a result of the poor reception and constant change of the Presidents; itinerary that they experienced.

Hon. Members, I can confirm that it is the first time the Madaraka Day Celebrations is being held outside Nairobi County and if not, then it is a first that a National function is being held in Kisumu County. So, we are here to learn so that next time it is brought here, we find a way of circumventing these challenges God willing. Any inconvenience is highly regrettable.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Muga.

Hon. Muga: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I arise citing the provision of the County Assembly of Kisumu Standing Order No. 42.

Mr. Speaker, what we witnessed yesterday, should be a learning curve to the County Government that is because the program was well structured.

The program was well structured – it was documented in the card that we were to go through gate four which we did and got seats – nobody embarrassed us. If the county government was keen enough, I believe they learnt what they should now do, recognizing that we are Hon. Members of this county.

Mr. Speaker, I was very happy with you, because you were ready to be with us but they thought it right that, that was not the place for you – they took you to a higher seat. I want to congratulate Hon. Members – we were very patient and keen to see what was happening. I also want to thank the people of Kisumu for the respect and for showing love to our visitors – the President who was very happy – going by how he was giving his speeches. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Ogutu.

Hon. Ogutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Let me also express my joy for the county having hosted this important event for the first time in history. Save for some hitches, you've dwelt on the Marine School. I was one of the victims at the Marine School. We left this place with the Deputy Speaker and Hon. Victor Rodgers and travelled in one vehicle to the Marine School. We were chased away and our next stop was at Kondele. But such things sometimes happen. Generally, I hail the organization – it was well structured. I believe that it was the best I have attended since I was elected.

Mr. Speaker, I want to echo what Hon. Muga has stated that Kisumu County should emulate the National Government in terms of event organization. If that is done then I believe we will not be embarrassed the way we have been in county events.

Mr. Speaker, It is also good that you sat with us for some time before you moved to the Presidential dais – it showed solidarity with your people. When we are going for such events, I believe that we should be having our security around. I was a victim and one of my vehicle's side mirrors was

vandalized and now I cannot see the rear of my vehicle. I was a victim of the theft that happened that day. Mr. Speaker, but to my surprise, I had parked my vehicle where the dignitaries had parked theirs but at the end of the day, my side mirror was gone. I appeal for help so that I can replace the lost side mirror because I am in drastic need of it. Thank you.

(Laughters)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Senior Member.

Chief Whip (Hon. Misachi): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I equally want to say that the event went on very well and we were happy and as it has been reiterated, this was a rehearsal for the Afri-cities.

Mr. Speaker, on our behalf, I would like to request the office of the Governor that during the organization of the Afri-cities, a member or two of the County Assembly be nominated to this Committee which will be tasked to organize the Afri-cities event so that we also have a voice within the structures. Mr. Speaker, because this will be a County function, and it will be held in Kisumu and this will not be a National function and it is Kisumu who will be organizing this event. Our security and our people must be accorded priority. Mr. Speaker, I am aware that if we seek an audience with the Governor, that when it comes to issues like the parking of vehicles or manning the place where Hon. Members will sit, and if we are involved from the organizations phase, then, we'll be able to have a voice within that Afri-cities Organizing Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I plead with you to take this matter up with the Governor, because April, 2022 is just around the corner. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Otiang'.

Hon. Otiang': Thank you Mr. Speaker. I must say that yesterday the event went well but there is an observation which I want to put across.

Mr. Speaker, when we came into this House, we used to have somebody from the County Assembly whom during such events would identify Hon. Members and usher them to places designated as their sitting areas. Yesterday, we were seated with guests from the National Assembly, I saw that they had brought their Protocol Officers with them and these Officers ensures that their seats were reserved for them, additionally, they ensured that even their refreshments were taken care of. Mr. Speaker, we used to have such arrangements here when we came in. I believe that it will be a good idea when we incorporate our staff who identify with us so that we are assisted when we reach these venues.

Mr. Speaker, we have the Department of Serjeant-at-Arms. When Hon. Ogotu is lamenting that his car was vandalized which I believe that, if we are accompanied with these staff who are assigned duties when we are going for such functions, it will alleviate such situations. We have our Security here watching over our vehicles and I believe we can have a pre-rearranged

engagement that when we attend such functions we will be informed that these is where we are designated to park our vehicle and this is the place we are designated to seat. So, that atleast our Hon. Members don't feel left out or relegated in the back banner without staff to assist us. Mr. Speaker, that is a gap that I took note of. Actually, I can recall that when we visited Kirinyaga when we went for the Devolution Conference, I reminisce that their Protocols Officers would come with forms to sign. Mr. Speaker, I don't know how the Senate does it, but, I believe that whenever they go out, it is considered like a function of the Senate so they equally sign registers as a matter taking care of their welfare to cater for their travelling. Mr. Speaker, I believe that, that is something we can emulate from so that these Members feel the same.

Mr. Speaker, on the issues that the Hon. Members were chased away. My suggestion is that we do a letter. You know for everybody to create a space that space has to be scrambled for and for people to realize that County Assemblies are important entities in Governments. I don't know why we are an afterthought in all these because if you were told and messaged and they did not act promptly; even if it is a national function then these people must realize that we are also leaders in our own right and we have to be seen to be owning this County. Otherwise, if we let this go like that then it would seem to be that the National Government does not work with the County Government. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Obonyo.

Deputy Whip (Hon. Obonyo): Asante sana Bwana Spika. Ningependa sana kuchangia kwa ufupi kulingana na yale niliyaona jana...

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it Hon. Muga?

Hon. Muga: Mr. Speaker I stood on Standing Orders no. 42 and it seems like we want to make this a debate and therefore it needs to be seconded.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Muga we are not on debate but it is statement hour.

Deputy Whip (Hon. Obonyo): Asante sana Bwana Spika kwa kunisaidia. Jana nilikuwa na furaha tele kulingana na yale niliyaona huko. Nimeskia mhemshimiwa mwenzangu Otiang' akisema ya kwamba tunastahil kuwa na mwenzetu kule kwa ajili yetu tusiweze kusumbuka tunapoenda kule. Mimi niliifika mahali pale mapema na nilikuwa wa tano kufika hulu kama mheshimiwa. Kazi yangu ilikuwa kuangalia mheshimiwa mwenzangu akiingia na kuinua mkono wangu ili ajue mahal tumeketi. Nilifanya vivyo hivyo hadi dakika ya mwisho.

Bwana Spika yale niliona huko yalinipendeza. Hafla ya Madaraka iliyoletwa Kisumu ilikuwa ya fanaka sana. Asante.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next Order!

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, there being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to today 2nd June 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

(House rose at 9.45 a.m.)

Addendum

The Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende – Senior Hansard Reporter

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