COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – SECOND SESSION

Tuesday 14th February, 2023

House met in the Main Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYER

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Mr. Clerk, please take us through the Order Paper of today.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, today is Tuesday 14th February, 2022 and we have assembled here again after the Long Recess that started on Friday, 02nd December, 2022 to 13th February, 2023. I want to believe that you had an opportunity to interact with the electorates and you took your time to reflect. Additionally, I believe that you are now more rejuvenated and ready to face the huge task ahead of us. We are planning to have a more comprehensive engagement moving forward.

Honourable Members, I am also aware that a number of committees sat for various activities that were critical for effective and efficient for the continuous operations of the legislatures. I will mention a few of these committees. The Budget and Appropriations Committee met severally to look at the proposed Kisumu County Finance Bill, the Planning, Industrialization and ICT

Committee, Health, Housing and Sanitation Committee, Justice and Legal Affairs Committee amongst many other House Committees. I want to thank you because you turned out for your respective businesses.

Honourable Members, having applauded you on that commitment, we know that the reports on the work you undertook during the recess are ready and they shall find their way to the Assembly anytime. Let me say that the task ahead of us is enormous and we pray for enhanced commitment and peaceful co-hesitance. We got sworn in last year and somebody called Tuckman came up with five stages of development. Honourable Members, when you campaigned during the elections period, this guy called it Forming Stage. You did compete among other people. He says that during the forming stage. "This is the stage of orientation and getting acquainted with a lot of uncertainties." which is high when people are looking for leadership and authority. A member who has authority is seems to be taking control of the team. In this stage, members do ask a lot of questions. What the team is likely to offer? What are the gains whether you will fit in or not? And most interactions grow.

Honourable Members, after that there is Storming Stage. This is probably what you went through during the election of the Speaker and even the first session of the Assembly. In as much as it is very difficult stage, it is very critical and I want to request that we need to pass that stage very fast because it is a period marked by conflicts and competition as individual personalities emerge. Team performance may decrease at this stage because energy is put into unproductive activities, and members may disagree on team goals and subgroups. Moreover, cliques may form around strong personalities or areas of agreement. To move to the next stage of Tuckman's stages of development, members need to work to overcome obstacles, accept individual differences and to work on conflicting areas and ideas on team tasks and goals. Teams can get bogged down in this stage. Honorable Members, if we do not address conflicts, they end up in long term problems, and you are quite conversant with how we experienced that stage.

Honourable Members, the third stage is the Norming Stage. In any team development, which is a good team and I believe that is the team that we are going through but I also request that we need pass it very fast. The proposer of these stages says that in the norming stage, the team gets through the storming stage, conflict is resolved, and some degree of unity emerges. Consensus develops around who the leaders are and individual roles of members. Interpersonal differences begin to be resolved, and a sense of cohesion and unity emerges. Team performance increases in this stage as individual members learn to cooperate and focus on team goals. However, the harmony is precarious and if the disagreements re-emerge again, the team is likely to slide back in to the storming stage.

I want to believe that we are past the storming stage, and would request that we take the shortest time possible in the norming stage. I am certain that we are in the norming stage by observing how

during the recess period, members have worked together despite the disagreements that arose and they were able to resolve them. It is important to note that change because we are here as individuals but on a collective objectives and goals, which is representation, oversight, and legislation. It is my wish that we move faster to the fourth stage, which is the performing stage. Tuckman goes ahead to say that in the Performing stage, consensus and cooperation has been established well, and the team is mature, organized and well-functioning. There is a clear and stable structure and members are committed to the team's mission. Problems and conflicts will still emerge but they are able to deal with them constructively.

Honourable Members, there's no team that will miss to have conflicts but when we are in the performing stage, we will be able to discuss them constructively as we proceed in our engagements. I wish that we reach that performing stage very fast and maybe prevent anything that may take us back to the previous stages.

The last stage in any team development is the adjournment stage. That will be the last stage. Members of the public will judge us in five years to come. Let me even talk of four years only. This is because, most of the team goals would have been accomplished or not. Our performance will be determined by how the public will judge us. I would want to borrow heavily from this man called Tuckman's Principles of Development, being an educational psychologists, I want to borrow heavily from him that, let us move towards the performing stage. Because, in any case, the adjourning stage will be automatic, whether we like it or not, it will have to come. We have heavy task ahead of us and we have to do what we are supposed to do at the right time, in the right place and for the right purpose.

Honourable Members, I want also to bring to your attention that we are in a very tough economic period and therefore I want to report to you that by the time we were closing, the County Government of Kisumu being one of them had only received an Exchequer Disbursement up to the month of October. I believe it is last week that Kisumu County amongst other counties received disbursement for the month of November. We held a discussion with the Assembly Leadership, the County Assembly Service Board and made a decision that we thought was appropriate. With the constrain of resources, we thought of deciding on what would affect all the Members positively, but, I want to prepare you that based on what you read on the papers and what you hear, we are in a tough economic period and we must come together to achieve what is intended of us amidst the constraints of resources that we hear of and we see.

Hon. Members, I believe that the leadership was well informed and they will be giving further details on our plans. However, I want to request that as we move forward, let us do it as a team. We have discussed several measures that will help us do our work effectively. For instance, the Procedure and Rules Committee shall be proceeding for retreat on the issue of consideration of the Standing Order. I am calling for cooperation and support from all Members as we look into the Standing Orders because it is our guiding principle in terms of committee membership and even

realignment of House Committees in line with what we have at the executive side for purposes of effective oversight and representation. The board also did approve a paper which was proposed by one of the staff members on research on public participation. I want to assure you that we are going to enhance or improve how we shall be doing public participation and public engagement.
Honourable Members, the other critical thing that come strongly is the sensitization of the public, because as we speak most people do not understand the role of an Member of County Assembly, other elected leaders, the executive and the Assembly vis-à-vis the role of the national parliament and that of the other arms of government that exist in Kenya.

With sensitization, the public will be able to understand and therefore, as they make you accountable you will be held accountable purposely on what is your role and not what is someone else role. We are trying to put up measures to ensure that it works effectively amongst others that we shall convey as we proceed.

Otherwise, I want to encourage members to take up their seriously roles especially the oversight role antenna and continue submitting Motions and Statements even as you push through with your representation duties, I welcome you.

Honourable members, number two, I want to make communication that during the recess we received a letter from one of the board member whom you discussed here, Janet Opiate, she was approved here as an External Member of the Board. She has sent her resignation letter based on personal reasons and as a board, we have resolved that we are going to replace her as per the provisions available to the status on the same. I want to promise that we shall make communications to the members in due course or as soon as possible as required by the Statute surrounding the Recruitment of External board Members for purposes of you Members of the Assembly debating on the same approving it or rejecting it as appropriate. Thank you.

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

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Leader of the Majority.

Leader of Majority (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Please allow me to also welcome back Members from the Long Recess and it is my hope and belief that we are going to work together as a team.

Mr. Speaker, aware that the provisions of Standing Orders No. 154 (1) (e) provides that, not less than seven and not more than nine other members shall be nominated by the County Assembly parties and approved by the County Assembly at the commencement of every session reflecting the relative majority of the seats held by each of the County Assembly parties in the County Assembly and taking into consideration the interest of the independent.

Further aware that, the provisions of Standing Orders no. 154 (2) provides that this House may further adjourn for another seven days to allow the constitution of the House Business Committee.

Now therefore, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders No. 50 (b), I wish to move a Motion that this House adjourns until Tuesday, 21st February, 2023 at 14:30 hours to allow for the Re-constitution of the House Business Committee and I would like Hon. Joachim Omieno to second this motion. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Joachim Omieno, MCA, Kondele Ward.

Hon. Omieno (MCA, Kondele Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I arise to second the motion as moved by the Leader of Majority. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, the Leader of Majority has moved a motion for further adjournment of this House for seven days for the purposes of the establishment of the House Business Committee as per the provision of our Standing Orders No. 154 and I want to proposed a question that the motion on adjournment of this House is open for debate.

(Silence)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to presume that the silence means that apparently there is a unanimous agreement. So, Leader of Majority you have the right of reply.

Leader of Majority (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to appreciate all the Members for the support of the further adjournment. Mr. Speaker, I reply. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, going by the provisions of our Standing Orders, when an adjournment motion is moved and seconded, there is no question put. Therefore, I want to declare this House adjourned until Tuesday, 21st February, 2023 at 14:30 hours. Thank you.

(House arose at 14:49 hours)

Addendum

The Hansard Team

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