

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Third County Assembly – First Session

Wednesday 12th October, 2022

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 9.30 a.m.

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

PRAYERS

MOTION

CONSTITUTION OF HOUSE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Hon. Speaker: I will direct that we dispense with order no.9 and we shall collapse order no.8, no.10, no.11, no.12, no.13 under one order so that we deal with it jointly.

MOTION

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I have communication in regard to the election of the Deputy Speaker. I have been informed by the office of the Clerk that the position of Deputy Speaker of the County Assembly attracted three candidates. Upon reflections and consultations among the candidates, I have been notified that the three candidates have reached consensus and two agreed to withdraw their candidature in favour of one and the one that remained is Hon. Andericus Oduor Odongo and therefore remains as the sole candidate for the position of deputy speaker.

Hon. Members, in line with the provisions of Standing Order no. 14 of the County Assembly Standing Orders read together with the First Schedule of the Election's Act 2016 which states that *if there is only one candidate who has been duly nominated that candidate shall be declared forthwith to have been elected Deputy Speaker without any ballot with minimum vote required.*

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I therefore declare Hon. Andericus Oduor Odongo as the duly Nominated and Elected Deputy Speaker of the County Assembly of Siaya. I now direct the Clerk to administer oath of office to Hon. Andericus Oduor Odongo.

(The Clerk accordingly administered the Oath of Allegiance to Hon, Andericus Oduor Odongo)

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, on the same breath of elections I wish to make the following communication on the nomination of political party leadership in the House in view of Standing Order no.16, 1 and 5 which stipulates that the largest party or Coalition of parties in the House shall elect a Member of the Assembly belonging to the party or Coalition of parties to be the Leader of Majority party and another to be their deputy.

I have received communication that; Hon. Edwin Martin Otieno has been nominated as the Leader of Majority party. That Hon. Rose Rabinya has been nominated as the Deputy Leader of the Majority party.

That Hon. Booker Washington Bonyo has been nominated as the Whip of the Majority party and that Hon. Julie Okelo has been nominated Deputy Whip of majority party. Members you are so notified.

I have another communication on the Member of the County Assembly Service Board; Hon. Members, Pursuant to section 12C of the County Government Act 2012 read together with section 46 of the County Assembly Services Act; Majority Party in the House has nominated Hon. Peter Oduor Odongo to sit in the County Assembly Service Board. Hon. Members you are so notified.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEES

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Deputy Speaker?

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Odongo): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir; I would like to move a Motion:

THAT Pursuant to Standing Order no.161 this House adopts the following list of Members to the House Rules and Business Committee as laid on the Table of the House.

(Hon Odongo laid the document on the Table of the House)

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Mr. Speaker, Sir; I would like to move a Motion on order no. 10 that Pursuant to Standing Order no. 162 this House adopts the listed Members of the Selection Committee as laid on the Table of the House today, Wednesday 12th October, 2022.

(Hon Odongo laid the document on the Table of the House)

I proceed moving a Motion:

THAT Pursuant to Standing Order no.15; this House adopts the following Members to the Speaker's panel as laid on the Table of the House today Wednesday 12th October, 2022.

(Hon Odongo laid the document on the Table of the House)

On Order Paper no.13 I also move a Motion:

THAT Pursuant to Standing order no.162 (a) This House adopts the listed Members of the General Oversight Committee as laid on the Table of the House today Wednesday 12th October, 2022.

(Hon Odongo laid the document on the Table of the House)

I Move a Motion:

THAT Pursuant to section 12 (3c) of the County Government Act 2012, the majority party nominates Hon. Peter Joseph Oduor to the Member of the Siaya County Assembly Service Board.

Hon. Speaker: Can you ask someone to second you?

Hon. Madialo: I second.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I shall then propose the question having collapsed order no. 8, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 and that pursuant to standing order no. 161, 162, 195, 15, 162(a) section 12 (3c) that this House adopts the names as appearing in the order paper.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Odongo): ...point of Order, Mr. Speaker, Sir!

Before we adjourn, I would like to appreciate Hon. Members of this House by giving a speech for electing me as the Deputy Speaker for a second time if you allow me.

Hon. Speaker: How long will it take?

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Odongo): I think if you give me two minutes, I will be done.

Hon. Speaker: ok. Proceed.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER'S (HON. ODONGO) ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Odongo): Mr. Speaker, Sir, and my colleagues Hon. Members, it is my joy that you have re-elected me as your Deputy Speaker for the second term. I do not take it for granted for the trust, privilege and honour that you have accorded me.

First, let me begin by congratulating my boss, the Speaker who has been elected for three consecutive terms to lead this Assembly. This is affirmation of confidence that Members have in leadership of the Speaker.

Let me commit that I will work harmoniously with my boss the Speaker to guarantee that the Assembly achieves its constitutional role of oversight and legislation and appropriation of expenditure.

Our collective achievement as an Assembly in the last season is well documented. We aim to do better this season but for us to succeed our unity of purpose is paramount. Our unity must be safeguarded jealously to ensure we achieve our collective goal unlike in neighbouring Counties, which experienced conflicts in the last regime.

Siaya Assembly has a record as the most cohesive team in the region. It is my prayer that we shall collectively better our record as the most cohesive, united, and effective Assembly in the region. It is important to emphasize that in the spirit of separation of powers the Assembly is an independent arm and collectively we must aim to protect the independence of this Assembly.

Finally, I must admit that in the wisdom of the Speaker to allow Members to elect House leadership after the bonding season. We are here today as a team that is familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of the colleagues which is key role for allocation of Members (to various committees).

It is (my) undertaking that I will act fairly in the conduct of my duties and will not pursue any selfish agenda, which might compromise the mandate of the office.

Thank you, and may the Almighty God bless the work of the Assembly.

(Applauses)

Hon. Speaker: Now that means that even the other leaders will want to say something. Yes, Hon. Oliver Arika!

Hon. Arika: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I was also in the race (for Deputy Speaker) and I would want to give a speech. I would want to refresh the Hon. Members by those of us who were lucky to come across the storybook by Chinua Achebe called *Things Fall Apart*. I would really want to echo what an old man said in that book that *when people gather in a moonlight in a village it is not the moon that brings them together because each person can observe the light from their homesteads, but sometimes it is good to do so for humankind to come together.*

I want to compare it to what has happened here today that when Hon. Members gather in a House like this to select a leader particularly to hold their briefs to articulate issues on their behalf. That does not mean that these other Hon. Members are not able to perform in that

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position but sometimes the leaders will sit down and do so because it is always good for them to sit down and select one of them to hold their brief.

I therefore want to support my Hon. Deputy Speaker and I undertake to stand with him.
Thank you.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Booker Bonyo Washington.

The Chief Whip (Hon. Booker): Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Whole House for the honour and respect they have bestowed on the people of North Uyoma by electing me unopposed as the Chief Whip of the majority party of this House.

It is not that they feared contesting with me but it is out of respect and I want to say that the people of North Uyoma and I do not take it lightly.

I promise that I will whip everyone towards the right direction of our mega party and I would also wish to urge all members of the party to be honest to the party and I promise to be honest to Members and everybody who is a party member to ODM party.

Thank you very much and God bless you.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Susan Okwiry.

Hon. Okwiry: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. First, let me take this opportunity to congratulate my competitor Hon. Oduor Odongo. We have worked together with him and I would also want to thank Hon. Arika who vied against me because it was not a do or die race and let it go to the books of History that I am the first female to vie for any leadership position in the House.

Thank you.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Edwin Otieno.

The Majority Leader (Hon. Otieno): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to congratulate my worthy competitor Hon. Seth Baraka. Thank you, Hon. Baraka for the effectiveness you put on this race together with my able sister Hon. Scolastica.

Above all, allow me to congratulate the Hon. Members who have also bestowed trust on me to again give me this office to run. On that note, allow me to put my acceptance speech on the same office.

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ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY MAJORITY LEADER (HON. OTIENO)

Hon. Speaker, Sir, it has been a belief that one must accept to be led in order to be a leader in their lifetime. The people of Siaya County particularly the people of Ugunja would remember that I was once a leader in which I served in the capacity of the Majority Leader in the First Assembly.

I humbly accepted the decision of the people to allow another competent constituent to provide alternative leadership to the Assembly. Today, I whole-heartedly rise to the occasion to appreciate all whom demonstrated trust in me once more.

I thank God and the ODM party for my predecessor equally served as the Leader of Majority in this House. I take this opportunity to thank Hon. Members of 3rd August House for having trust in my leadership again.

I commit not to lead but offer platform for consultative leadership in which we shall all walk to victory to the success of Siaya County.

Allow me to equivocally appreciate our party ODM for having trusted me to advance its affairs and agenda of County Government in the House. It is my prayer and hope that the County Government under the leadership of His. Excl. Gov. James Orengo shall foster pro people policies, proposal and legislations that shall offer the requisite intervention and addressing the policy gaps in Siaya County.

I besiege Members of the Siaya County Assembly and the Leadership to inculcate the spirit of consultation and unity in approaching matters of County importance in order to facilitate and enhance service delivery to the people of Siaya.

As the Majority leader, I commit to lead the way forward as agreed by Members. Thank you, and may God bless the people of Siaya.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Peter Oduor, what is it?

Hon. Oduor: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is indeed an honour for being elected as a Member to represent the Hon. Members of this House in the County Assembly Service Board. I thank these distinguished Hon. Members and I promise that I will not let you down and as you know the Board is where we articulate issues of the House and I know God is with you as he is with me.
Thank you.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Adala.

Hon. Adala: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise as someone who did not vie for any seat because it is written in the Holy Book that many were called but few were chosen. My main

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reason is to just show how am amazed and very honoured to be a Member in this House because we have done a very peaceful election that once it was done I see us speaking in one voice.

Time and again this kind of exercise would have led to riots and so many other vices, therefore I must say a big thank you to all of you who vied because all of you are very capable of serving us and I know just like the previous Assembly in which I sat we shall have a very successful Assembly.

Last but not least, thank you and God bless you all.

MOTION
ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members, I think adjournment had been called, so at this point would you be upstanding for adjournment. There being no other business, this House adjourns until today Wednesday 12th of October, 2022 in the Chamber at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 11.16 a.m.