



OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BOMET

THIRD COUNTY ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY DEBATES

Vol. 2 No. 97

DAILY HANSARD

The Assembly met at the Main Assembly Chamber,

Dr. Joyce Laboso Centre at 9:30 a.m.

Third County Assembly- Second Session

Wednesday Morning 15th November, 2023

(The Assembly met at 9:30 a.m. in the

County Assembly Mini Chamber at County Assembly Buildings)

[Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich) in the Chair]

PRAYER

(Hon. C. Langat rises on a point of order)

Hon. C. Langat (Boito ward, UDA): Hon. Speaker I think the quorum is not there.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Okay I instruct the Serjeant at arms to ring the bell for ten minutes.

(Quorum bell rung)

Hon. Deputy Speaker (L. Rotich): Okay we've attained the quorum, in a case where we are trying to attain the quorum the only member who is allowed to go out is the chief whip to mobilize the members, any other member should remain sited so that we attain the quorum. Clerk kindly list the items in the order paper.

PAPERS

THE COUNTY BUDGET REVIEW AND OUTLOOK PAPER 2023

Hon. P. Kirui, Leader of Majority (Ndanai/Abosi ward, UDA): Hon. Speaker I beg to table the county budget review and outlook paper 2023. I beg to table sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (L. Rotich): Kindly proceed. The paper which has been tabled I commit it to the committee on budget, chair committee budget? Vice chair? I commit the paper which has been tabled to be deliberated on within 14 days.

MOTION

Hon. P. Kirui, Leader of Majority (Ndanai/Abosi ward, UDA): Hon. Speaker I beg to move the motion that pursuant to Standing Order 166(3), this County Assembly approves the Report of Committee on Selection tabled on 25th October 2023 and subsequent appointment of Hon. Leonard Rotich as a member of the County Public Investments and Accounts Committee.

Hon. Speaker these changes were necessitated by the fact that the committee was supposed to be restructured having heard concerns from members where some members were not having enough

positions in the committees. We therefore sat as a committee and this report was brought to this Assembly on 25th October 2023 for approval of appointment of one honourable Leonard Rotich by this Assembly, I therefore beg honourable Cheptoo to second, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon. R. Cheptoo (Rongena/Manaret ward, UDA): Thank you Hon. Speaker I second the appointment of Hon. Leonard Rotich as a member of the County Public Investments and Accounts Committee, thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): I now propose the question that pursuant to Standing Order 166 (3), this County Assembly approves the Report of Committee on Selection tabled on 25th October 2023 and subsequent appointment of Hon. Leonard Rotich as a member of the County Public Investments and Accounts Committee. So the floor is now open for debate.

Hon. C. Langat (Boito ward, UDA): Hon. Speaker I stand to support the changes because the changes were necessitated to align the committee to be in tandem with the standing orders because honourable Ann is sitting with the board at the same time at the PAC and to avoid the conflict of interest it was necessary to align. So this is something we should not even discuss, it is only us to support and approve it, thank you Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): I now put the question that pursuant to Standing Order 166(3), this County Assembly approves the Report of Committee on Selection tabled on 25th October 2023 and subsequent appointment of Hon. Leonard Rotich as a member of the County Public Investments and Accounts Committee.

Question put and agreed to

MOTION

Hon. P. Kirui, Leader of Majority (Ndanai/Abosi ward, UDA): Hon. Speaker I beg to move the motion that pursuant to Standing Order 166(3), this County Assembly approves the Report of Committee on Selection tabled on 25th October 2023 and subsequent appointment of Hon. Ann Chepkemoi as a member of committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. On the same note Hon. Deputy Speaker, the same member Hon. Deputy Speaker was supposing to be given proper alignment as she was sitting on the board and in this case therefore this alignment was requested in the report by the committee which sat on the same date. We therefore request that this Assembly approves honorable Anne Chepkemoi as a member of the committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and livestock. I therefore request the same member honorable Roseline to second. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon. R. Cheptoo (Rongena/Manaret, UDA): Okay thank you once again cf, I second subsequent appointment of honorable Anne Chepkemoi as a member of committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (L. Rotich): I propose that pursuant to standing order 166 (3), this county assembly approves the report on committee on selection tabled on 25th October 2023 and subsequent appointment of honorable Anne Chepkemai as a member of the committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. The floor is now open for debate.

(Hon. C. Langat rose on a point of order)

Hon. C. Langat (Boito ward, UDA): I feel for our safety Hon. Deputy Speaker because honorable Kiprotich came with a huge luggage. I do not know what is contained in the luggage Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): I order Serjeant-at-Arms to check the bag which was carried by Hon. Kiprotich.

(Serjeant-At-Arms Moves to check the bag)

Hon. W. Kiprotich (Chepchas ward, UDA): Mr. Speaker, I do not know why you are suspicious of my presence in the Assembly. The luggage I am carrying Mr. Speaker although honorable Charles is very right that he can raise a security measure but I think I am harmless and what about the privacy of my bag. *(Murmurs)*

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Okay thank you, we have been alerted that we are safe. Any luggage should be deposited outside the plenary otherwise we have been told that it contains two laptops. The floor was on the debate of motion number 9. Honorable Monica.

Hon. M. Manyei (Nominated MCA, UDA): Thank you Hon. Deputy Speaker. I stand to support this motion. This is because honorable Anne Chepkemai being a serious agriculturalist, I support her to be a member of Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Honorable Busienei.

Hon. D. Busienei (Chemagel ward, UDA): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the appointment of honorable Anne however Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that honorable Anne has ever practiced any kind of farming. She represents Township Mr. Speaker and we do not have any record to prove that she practices but however Mr. Speaker

(Hon. C. Langat rose on a point of order)

Hon. C. Langat (Boito, UDA): is it in order for the member to demean a fellow member by saying she has never practiced Agriculture yet she is a farmer Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Kindly substantiate your sentiments honorable Busienei.

Hon. D. Busienei (Chemagel ward, UDA): Before I substantiate Mr. Speaker, I said I am not aware so maybe honorable Charles, I have never known Anne to be a farmer and if you do any

other business, I think it is not demeaning not to be a farmer. A farmer in this sense means that you practice a farm of not less than 10 acres and above and I am not aware of any kind of farming that honorable Anne has ever practiced in this county but however, if she is a serious farmer Mr. Speaker, I stand to be corrected and I substantiate.

(Hon. S. Changmorik rose on a point of order)

Hon. S. Changmorik (Longisa ward, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, the chair lands need to be very clear that maybe he needs Anne to be in his committee because Anne is a surveyor by profession and he can assist a lot in his committee. Maybe he can donate one of the members in his committee who knows Agriculture to our agriculture chair so that he can take honorable Anne because she is a surveyor.

Hon. D. Busienei (Chemagel ward, UDA): Protect me Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Kindly proceed.

Hon. D. Busienei (Chemagel ward, UDA): Honorable Anne Mr. Speaker is a member of Urban. We sit in the same committee and I know her better than these two honorable members; Charles and Changmorik and I know her that she is not a farmer so that should *(inaudible)*.

(Hon. C. Langat rose on a point of order)

Hon. C. Langat (Boito ward, UDA): Kindly inform the member Hon. Deputy Speaker to be fair enough on even the language he is using Hon. Deputy Speaker. Kindly guide the Assembly for saying that Anne is not a farmer. How much does he know about Anne Hon. Deputy Speaker?

(Hon. W. Kiprotich rose on a point of order)

Hon. W. Kiprotich (Chepchas ward, UDA): There is something that I am trying to read Mr. Speaker and I want to post a question to you. When was the notice of motion of this motion that is at hand given because ideally, the duty of a notice of motion is to give time to the members to even come up with amendments. If Hon. Busienei sentiments is anything to go by, then he may be seemingly wanting honorable Anne to remain in his committee by virtue of honorable Anne being a surveyor, she can be of help in that particular part. Whether or not honorable Anne has practiced any farming or not and she will be in Agriculture committee if this motion is approved by this Assembly, Mr. Speaker can you guide the Assembly. Was due process followed for this particular names and naming of the committees to be here? If not, then that is where rain started eating us because the idea of a notice of motion is to give us lee way to discuss in plenary, to discuss outside, to discuss in *kamukunjis* and come up with amendments if there are any. Can you guide this Assembly when was the notice of motion of this motions given or are motions nowadays coming up directly to the floor of the Assembly without any notice.

Hon. D. Busienei (Chemagel ward, UDA): Mr. Speaker I do not know these point of orders Mr. Speaker. It seems the honorable members who are giving these point of orders wanted to divert the attention. I know honorable Anne very much Mr. Speaker and I do not have any objection for her sitting in this committee and furthermore Mr. Speaker, honorable Anne sits in my committee and the only committee that she exited at the side if for PIC/PAC so Mr. Speaker, I really support her and I know she will make a good contribution in Agriculture and before that Mr. Speaker is that we should have used this opportunity to realign any other committees for example the committee on ICT. Honorable chair, hon. Dancel had complained that he is the only a male member in that committee and we should balance the membership to meet the threshold that is required of 30% requirement of any gender in each committee.

Mr. Speaker, a balance should be attained immediately to review all the other committees but on this motion number 9 Mr. Speaker, I support the appointment of honorable Anne to sit in this Agriculture committee. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Okay honorable members the contention which was there is the fact that you stated that Anne is not a farmer. You categorically told this Assembly that Anne is not a farmer that was the point of contention to the member in this Assembly. Was Anne taken to the committee on Agriculture by virtue of the fact that she is a farmer? That is what you were not able to answer because you stated that Anne is not a member of the committee. All in all honorable member you have supported the motion. Honorable Caroline.

Hon. C. Chelangat (Nominated MCA, UDA): Thank you Mr. Speaker I rise to support the appointment of Anne...

(Hon. W. Kiprotich rose on a point of order)

Hon. W. Kiprotich (Chepchas ward, UDA): I had post a question to you and preferably you can rule on it first so that at least we can know that we are discussing a motion that is legit in this Assembly using standing order 52.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (L. Rotich): The motion was given on 25th October 2023 immediately after tabling the report of committee on selection so members have had enough time to even dig whether Anne is an agriculturalist or not. So the motion was given on 25th October 2023. So what we are discussing here is legitimate and is fit for this honorable Assembly to debate on.

Hon. W. Kiprotich (Chepchas ward, UDA): Very well obliged.

Hon. W. Kiprotich (Chepchas ward, UDA): It was stated in the list of the Order paper. Kindly let us be keen when we get the order paper. It was even put in our wall in soft copy. Honorable Caroline, proceed.

(Hon. D. Busienei rose on a point of order)

[Hon. D. Busienei (Chemagel Ward, UDA)]: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I want to set the record straight. I am not the one who said that Hon. Anne is a farmer. Hon. Monica said that she is in support of the Motion because Hon. Anne is a farmer. What I said is that I was not aware because I know Hon. Anne better than Hon. Monica. I just reacted to that statement by Hon. Monica. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Hon. Caroline.

Hon. C. Chelangat (Nominated MCA, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you. I rise to support the appointment of Hon. Anne Chepkemoi to the Committee of Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. The Notice of Motion was given two weeks ago and I have personally visited Hon. Anne in her Assembly. Instead of giving me bread to take with tea, she gave me bananas and oranges as an accompaniment. She is therefore fit to be a member of the Committee. She is a good farmer. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Hon. Nathan.

Hon. N. Kibet (Kapletundo Ward, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you. I support the appointment of Hon. Anne Chepkemoi as a member of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. Hon. Deputy Speaker, I only do not know why Hon. Caroline would assume that the bananas that were given to her were from the farm and not from the market.

Hon. C. Chelangat (Nominated MCA, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, we went around the farm and I saw bananas and oranges.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Hon. Member, you are out of order. You ought to wait to be given a chance to respond. You are therefore out of order. Hon. Peter.

Hon. P. Ronoh (Kipsonoi Ward, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you. I rise to support the Motion that the Hon. Anne be a member to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. I am on record and the Hansard is my witness when I rose on a point of order and requested the Chair to give us direction on the composition of Committees of this Assembly. On point was the Hon. Member being a member of PAC/PIC and at the same time serving us at the County Assembly Service Board. There was going to be conflict of interest. Now that she has successfully resigned from PAC/PIC, the Standing Orders that guide the operations of this Assembly give her the leeway to join any other Committee. I laud the Committee on Selection for placing her to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock, which I chair.

As explicit as it should be, it is not a requirement that you are a doctor so that you are placed in the Committee on Health. Neither should you be a farmer to be placed in the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. We actually do not even go to farms. We only oversight the CECM in charge of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries directly. It has been a point of

contention as to who goes to the farm and who doesn't.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, she will come in as a blend because for the past one year we have sat in the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries as a masculine gender alone. The coming of Hon. Anne makes it gender sensitive. Nonetheless, the composition of this County Assembly is made up of a third feminine gender and two-thirds masculine. The Standing Orders direct that you swear in Committees that are in conformity to the two-thirds gender rule. Hon. Deputy Speaker, Hon. Anne joining the Committee on Agriculture is a drop in the ocean. We still need more female Members to make it in conformity with the Standing Orders.

The earlier question, that I posed to the Chair to guide the Assembly whether the Committees are properly composed or not, stands unanswered. If that is not answered, I will be moving a Petition to consider a review of all the Committees because the Committees as at now are all out of the dictates of the law.

Otherwise, I welcome Hon. Anne to the Committee. It is a robust Committee and the only Committee that has tabled Bills that are due for consideration. Your joining the Committee means you will be active and will be moving round to farms but do not go picking other people's bananas because someone has claimed that you serve Hon. Members bananas that are not coming from your farm.

Welcome to the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, where food is a priority. Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you. I support the Motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Hon. Catherine.

Hon. C. Chepngetich (Nominated MCA, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you. I rise to support the appointment of Hon. Anne Chepkemoi to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. It looks like Hon. Peter read my mind because I noticed that the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock did not consider the two-third gender because there was no Member who was a woman in that Committee. Nonetheless, we are happy now that Hon. Anne is in that Committee. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Hon. Charles.

Hon. C. Langat (Boito Ward, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you. I rise to support Hon. Anne to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. She is qualified and competent enough to be in that Committee. I can attest that it is a blessing. She is good and we need to support her to that Committee. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Let me ask the Motion mover to ...

(Hon. W. Kiprotich rose on a point of order)

Hon. W. Kiprotich (Chepchabas Ward, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, you eyes did not catch

me.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Okay. Take the floor, Hon. Member.

Hon. W. Kiprotich (Chepchas Ward, UDA): Thank you. I join the Hon. Members in congratulating Hon. Anne on her new appointment to serve in the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock. I am a member of the Committee and let it be known that you are the one who exited the Committee and that vacancy was found.

Our able chair spoke as I left the Chamber to pick a call but I believe that he, on behalf of the Committee, has welcomed Hon. Anne. I believe that a new broom sweeps clean and now that we have a new broom, we believe that we are going to sweep clean. I support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): Hon. Member, thank you. As has been stated I was a member of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock and we did a lot in that Committee. I believe that they may also be losing a broom which swept well when it was in the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. I am not praising myself but I am also waiting to be a new broom in the Committee on PAC/PIC.

Hon. Member who moved the Motion, what are some of the factors that you considered when you were making these changes? Several Members have raised that you do not consider the qualification of a Member or do you consider that an added advantage? Kindly take the floor.

Hon. P. Kirui, Leader of Majority (Ndanai/Abosi ward, UDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you. The reason why we sat and deliberated on these changes is the realignment. Qualification is not a criterion. For the case of Hon. Anne, she did not have to be a farmer but we know that she has a good farm at Merigi and a good dairy unit here in town. We also know that Hon. Leonard Rotich has good experience in teaching and as a teacher, you can be all round and he can fit anywhere.

We discussed all these with the Committee and finally resolved that these two Members fit to join those Committees. Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker (Hon. L. Rotich): There being no other business, the Assembly stands adjourned to today, 2:30 p.m.

The Assembly rose at 10.25 am