

MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 26th May 2015

The House met at 2:35 p.m.

(Second Chair *Hon. Catherine Mugo* in the Chair)

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): There is no business in the House so members are requested to create business. Next order

NOTICES OF MOTION

NOTING THE CONTENTS OF THE TRADE, INDUSTRIALIZATION, TOURISM AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL TEA SYMPOSIUM IN HANGZHOU, CHINA IN THE YEAR 2014.

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: Madam Speaker I doubt whether the Hansard is in operation so with your permission, I beg that I sit down and wait for the machines to work because there is no sound.

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Hon. members the Assembly is adjourned for five minutes to ensure that the microphones are working.

(House adjourned for five minutes)

(Sitting resumed)

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): The speakers are not working that is why we cannot hear the sound from them but we will keep using the microphones as the machine is recording. We have ascertained that the machine is recording, next.

NOTING OF THE CONTENTS OF THE TRADE, INDUSTRIALIZATION, TOURISM AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL TEA SYMPOSIUM IN HANGZHOU, CHINA IN THE YEAR 2014.

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: Madam Speaker I need guidance, do I need to hold it or (*referring to the microphone*)...

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Yes you have to hold it.

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: Madam Speaker I beg to give notice of the following motion;-

That, this Assembly notes the contents of the Trade, Industrialization, Tourism and Wildlife Committee report on the International Tea Symposium in Hangzhou, China in the year 2014.

ADOPTION OF THE WATER, ENERGY, FORESTRY, ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND CO-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE DIAGNOSTIC REPORT BY DELOITTE AND TOUCHE ON MURANG'A FARMERS CO-OPERATIVE UNION

Hon. Agnes Ndunge: Madam Speaker I beg to give notice of the following motion on behalf of the Chairman Water, Energy, Forestry, Environment, Natural Resources and Co-operative Management;-

That, this Assembly adopts Water, Energy, Forestry, Environment, Natural Resources and Co-operative Management report on the diagnostic report by Deloitte and Touche on Murang'a Farmers Co-operative Union laid on the table of the Assembly on Tuesday May 26, 2015.

ACCESS TO ALL PUBLIC PLACES BY PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES

Hon. Esther Ngugi: I thank you Madam Speaker, I beg to give the notice of the following motion.

Aware, that all persons with disabilities are entitled to reasonable access to all places, public transport and information pursuant to Article 27 and 54 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, further aware that persons with disabilities face challenges in accessing public buildings, public transport and information in Murang'a County; this House urges the County Executive Committee Member for Transport and Infrastructure Development to;

- a. Construct ramps, lifts and other facilities necessary to facilitate access to all public offices and public places by persons with disabilities.
- b. To take measures to guarantee persons with disabilities reasonable access to all places, public transport and information including development of ramps, parking spaces, toilets, pedestrians path ways among others.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

DEPLOYMENT OF NURSES TO REHABILITATION CENTRES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY

Hon. Florence Nyambura: I thank you Madam Speaker, with your permission I would like to thank all the hon. members together with you Madam Speaker...

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): You are out of order Honourable Florence this is not the right forum for that.

Hon. Florence Nyambura: Madam Speaker let me give the notice of the motion;-

Aware, that Article 53 (1) (b) and (c) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 stipulates that every child has the right to free and compulsory basic education, basic nutrition, shelter and health care, cognizant of the fact that most children with disability in rehabilitation centres suffer multiple and chronic diseases; this House urges the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Health Services to;

1. Deploy nurses to all those centres who will be catering for those children during emergencies
2. Identify the children who suffer from epilepsy and provide the centres with medication for the same

DEVELOPMENT OF A POLICY ON STREET LIGHTING

Hon. Charles Karina: I thank you Madam Speaker, I wish to give the notice of the following motion;-

Aware, that County transport which includes street lighting is a devolved function as stipulated in Part 2 of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, further aware that urban and rural shopping centres in Murang'a County are faced with high cases of insecurity experienced at night including mugging of the residents and burglary of the various premises, recognizing the fact that this has been caused by lack of street lighting

system in these urban and rural shopping centres, lack of proper fitting of security lighting systems and poor functioning of the existing ones on various premises; this House urges the County Executive Member for Transport and Infrastructure to develop a policy on lighting of streets, urban and rural shopping centres of the County including the requirement that all public and private buildings shall be fitted with security lighting systems.

MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SELECTION ON NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES

Hon. Peter Kihungi: I thank you Madam Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;-

That, this Assembly adopts the report of the committee on Selection on nomination of members to various committees laid on the table of the Assembly on Tuesday May 26, 2015.

Madam Speaker, we were given a mandate by the liaison due to major quorum problem and it was said that we sit and address the problem, including the one where you find a member has three meetings at ten on the same day which can also raise audit query as a member is paid for two meetings which took place at the same time.

We were mandate to harmonise the membership so that if it is at ten on a particular day every member has only one meeting and ensure each member is able to achieve four meetings. That was our mandate and it was tedious exercise. I know some members have been moved from the committees. This was also to ensure every member gives maximum contribution to the committee, because I know Madam Speaker that some members had total goodwill to contribute to a committee but he cannot be able because of quorum hitches.

I wish to table this for adoption and I wish to read how we placed the members. We have sectorial committees. We have;

WATER, ENERGY, FORESTRY, ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCE AND CO-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

1. Hon. Joseph Kimani Machiri - Chairperson
2. Hon. Francis Kamande Kamau - Vice Chair
3. Hon. Moses Gachui Mungai
4. Hon. Peter Mweri Maina
5. Hon. Julius Maina Kimani
6. Hon. Danson Mburu Muchoki
7. Hon. Rebecca Wanjiru Mwicigi
8. Hon. Mary Waithira Njoroge
9. Hon. Agnes Ndunge Mutwiwa
10. Hon Rosemary Wakuthii Njiine

EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE, RESEARCH, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND E-GOVERNMENT

1. Hon. John Njoroge Gitau - Chair person
2. Hon. Danson Mburu Muchoki - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Julius Maina Kimani
4. Hon. Anderson Muchemi Waweru
5. Hon. Bernard Wanyoike Kariuki

6. Hon. James Kariuki Ngugi
7. Hon. Cecilia Wanjiku Gitu
8. Hon Peter Irungu Kihungi
9. Hon Joseph Ndung'u Muchina
10. Hon Mary Watiri Kariuki
11. Hon Rosemary Wakuthii Njiine
12. Hon. Peter Murigi Ngugi
13. Hon Peter Kariuki Njogu
14. Hon Charity Wangui Rugu
15. Hon John Kiarie Ngugi
16. Hon Martin Mwangi Macharia

PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND TRANSPORT

1. Hon. Eliud Gitau Kabuthi -Chairperson
2. Hon. John Kiarie Ngugi - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. David Kabaka Gachuru
4. Hon. Peter Murigi Ngugi
5. Hon. Moses Gachui Mungai
6. Hon. Peter Maina Mweri
7. Hon. Mary Waithira Njoroge
8. Hon. Esther Wanjiru Ngugi
9. Hon. Francis Kamande Kamau

FINANCE & ECONOMIC PLANNING

1. Hon. Joseph Gitau Kimani - Chairperson
2. Hon. Samuel Dishon Wandia - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Charles Mwangi Kirigwi
4. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi
5. Hon. Rosemary Wakuthii Njiine
6. Hon. John Njoroge Gitau
7. Hon. Beth Wanjiku Ngugi
8. Hon Joseph Kimani Machiri
9. Hon Jane Wanjiku Ndegwa

LAND, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND SETTLEMENT

1. Hon. Duncan Mwangi Njuguna - Chair person
2. Hon. Samson Kago Njoroge - Vice Chair person
3. Hon. David Kabaka Gachuru
4. Hon. Charles Mwaniki Karina
5. Hon. Esther Nyakio Munywoki
6. Hon. Catherine Wairimu Mugo
7. Hon. Charity Wangui Rugu
8. Hon. Lucy Wangechi Njoroge
9. Hon. Samuel Ndehi Mwangi

AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

1. Hon. James Kariuki Ngugi - Chairperson
2. Hon. Isaac Mwangi Kamote - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Martin Mwangi Macharia

4. Hon. Lucy Wangechi Njoroge
5. Hon. Rebecca Wanjiru Mwicigi
6. Hon. Charity Wangui Rugu
7. Hon. Joseph Njoroge Mwangi
8. Hon. Agnes Ndunge Mutwiwa
9. Hon. Danson Mburu Muchoki

YOUTH, CULTURE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Hon. Caroline Wairimu Njoroge - Chairperson
2. Hon. James Njoroge Kariuki - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Joseph Ndung'u Njogu
4. Hon. Erick Kamande Kimani
5. Hon. Boniface Njihia Mbogo
6. Hon. James Benson Kagoni
7. Hon. Florence Nyambura Wangechi
8. Hon. Peter Kariuki Njogu
9. Hon. Joseph Ndung'u Muchina

GOVERNANCE, LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

1. Hon. Jesse Mburu Gitau - Chair person
2. Hon. Anderson Muchemi Waweru - Vice Chair person
3. Hon. Samuel Dishon Wandia
4. Hon. Isaac Mwangi Kamote
5. Hon. Martin Mwangi Macharia
6. Hon. Beth Wanjiku Ngugi
7. Hon. Jane Wanjiku Ndegwa
8. Hon. Cecilia Wanjiku Gitu
9. Hon. Joseph Njoroge Mwangi
10. Hon. Erick Kamande Kimani
11. Hon. Florence Nyambura Wangechi
12. Hon. Esther Wanjiru Ngugi
13. Hon. Joseph Ndung'u Njogu

TRADE, INDUSTRIALIZATION, TOURISM AND WILDLIFE

1. Hon. Charles Mwangi Kirigwi - Chairperson
2. Hon. David Muhoro Njeri - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Esther Nyakio Munywoki
4. Hon. Jesse Mburu Gitau
5. Hon. Joseph Njoroge Mwangi
6. Hon. Samson Kago Njoroge
7. Hon. Charles Mwaniki Karina
8. Hon. Joseph Ndung'u Njogu
9. Hon. Catherine Wairimu Mugo
10. Hon. James Njoroge Kariuki
11. Hon. Isaac Mwangi Kamote
12. Hon. Francis Kamande Kamau
13. Hon. Joseph Kimani Gitau

14. Hon. James Benson Kagoni
15. Hon. Agnes Ndunge Mutwiwa
16. Hon. Samuel Dishon Wandia
17. Hon. Esther Wanjiru Ngugi

HEALTH SERVICES

1. Hon. Boniface Njihia Mbogo - Chairperson
2. Hon. James Benson Kagoni - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Peter Murigi Ngugi
4. Hon. Eliud Gitau Kabuthi
5. Hon. Peter Kariuki Njogu
6. Hon. Mary Watiri Kariuki
7. Hon. John Kiarie Ngugi
8. Hon. James Njoroge Kariuki
9. Hon. Joseph Ndung'u Muchina

SELECT COMMITTEES

COUNTY PUBLIC INVESTMENT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Erick Kamande Kimani - Chairperson
2. Hon. Peter Murigi Ngugi - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Samuel Dishon Wandia
4. Hon. Samson Kago Njoroge
5. Hon. David Muhoro Njeri
6. Hon Esther Nyakio Munywoki
7. Hon. James Benson Kagoni
8. Hon. Mary Waithira Njoroge
9. Hon. Beth Wanjiku Ngugi
10. Hon Anderson Muchemi Waweru
11. Hon. John Kiarie Ngugi
12. Hon. Jane Wanjiku Ndegwa
13. Hon. Martin Mwangi Macharia

COUNTY BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Peter Mweri Maina -Chairperson
2. Hon. Joseph Ndung'u Muchina - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Joseph Kimani Gitau
4. Hon. Joseph Kimani Machiri
5. Hon. Rosemary Wakuthii Njiine
6. Hon. Esther Wanjiru Ngugi
7. Hon. Cecilia Wanjiku Gitu
8. Hon. James Kariuki Ngugi
9. Hon. Boniface Njihia Mbogo
10. Hon. Eliud Gitau Kabuthi
11. Hon. Charles Mwangi Kirigwi
12. Hon. John Njoroge Gitau
13. Hon. Caroline Wairimu Njoroge
14. Hon. Duncan Mwangi Njuguna
15. Hon. Jesse Mburu Gitau

COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS

1. Hon. Leonard Nduati Kariuki - Chairperson
2. Hon. Moses Gachui Mungai -Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi
4. Hon. Jesse Mburu Gitau
5. Hon. David Gachuru Kabaka

COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION

1. Hon. Charles Mwaniki Karina - Chairperson
2. Hon. Esther Nyakio Munywoki - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Julius Maina Kimani
4. Hon. Samson Kago Njoroge
5. Hon. Samuel Ndehi Mwangi
6. Hon. Cecilia Wanjiku Gitu
7. Hon. Anderson Muchemi Waweru
8. Hon. John Kiarie Ngugi
9. Hon. Mary Watiri Kariuki

COMMITTEE ON DELEGATED COUNTY LEGISLATION

1. Hon. Bernard Wanyoike Kariuki -Chairperson
2. Hon. Joseph Ndung'u Njogu - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Julius Maina Kimani
4. Hon. Agnes Ndunge Mutwiwa
5. Hon. Lucy Wangechi Njoroge
6. Hon. Peter Kariuki Njogu
7. Hon. Isaac Mwangi Kamote
8. Hon. Joseph Njoroge Mwangi
9. Hon Danson Mburu Muchoki
10. Hon James Njoroge Kariuki
11. Hon Rebecca Wanjiru Mwicigi
12. Hon Charity Wangui Rugu
13. Hon. Francis Kamande Kamau
14. Hon. Catherine Wairimu Mugo
15. Hon. Samuel Ndehi Mwangi
16. Hon. Florence Nyambura Wangechi

COMMITTEE ON SELECTION

1. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi - Chairperson
2. Hon. Samuel Ndehi Mwangi - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. David Muhoro Njeri
4. Hon. Danson Mburu Muchoki
5. Hon. James Njoroge Kariuki
6. Hon. Esther Nyakio Munywoki
7. Hon. Jane Wanjiku Ndegwa
8. Hon. Florence Nyambura Wangechi
9. Hon. Charles Mwaniki Karina

COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURE AND RULES

1. Hon. Leonard Nduati Kariuki - Chair person

2. Hon. Moses Gachui Mungai -Vice Chair person
3. Hon. Charles Mwangi Kirigwi
4. Hon. Isaac Mwangi Kamote
5. Hon. Charity Wangui Rugu

COUNTY ASSEMBLY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Leonard Nduati Kariuki -Chairperson
2. Hon. Moses Gachui Mungai - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi
4. Hon. David Kabaka Gachuru
5. Hon. Bernard Wanyoike Kariuki
6. Hon. Duncan Mwangi Njuguna
7. Hon. Caroline Wairimu Njoroge
8. Hon. Catherine Wairimu Mugo
9. Hon. Mary Watiri Kariuki
10. Hon. David Muhoro Njeri
11. Hon. Samuel Ndehi Mwangi
12. Hon. Florence Nyambura Wangechi
13. Hon. Lucy Wangechi Njoroge
14. Hon. Mary Waithira Njoroge
15. Hon. Jane Wanjiku Ndegwa
16. Hon. Rebecca Wanjiru Mwicigi
17. Hon. Beth Wanjiku Ngugi

POWERS AND PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE

1. Hon Leonard Nduati Kariuki -Chairperson
2. Hon. Duncan Mwangi Njuguna
3. Hon. James Kariuki Ngugi
4. Hon. Jesse Mburu Gitau
5. Hon Samuel Dishon Wandia
6. Hon. Charles Mwaniki Karina
7. Hon. Rebecca Wanjiru Mwicigi
8. Hon. Charity Wangui Rugu
9. Hon. Florence Nyambura Wangechi
10. Hon. Danson Mburu Muchoki
11. Hon. Martin Mwangi Macharia

LIAISON COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Moses Gachui Mungai -Chairperson
2. Hon. James Kariuki Ngugi
3. Hon. Joseph Kimani Gitau
4. Hon. Boniface Njihia Mbogo
5. Hon. Erick Kamande Kimani
6. Hon. Bernard Wanyoike Kariuki
7. Hon. Eliud Gitau Kabuthi
8. Hon. Charles Mwangi Kirigwi
9. Hon. Peter Mweri Maina
10. Hon. Charles Mwaniki Karina

11. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi
12. Hon. John Njoroge Gitau
13. Hon. Joseph Kimani Machiri
14. Hon. Caroline Wairimu Njoroge
15. Hon. Duncan Mwangi Njuguna
16. Hon. Jesse Mburu Gitau
17. Hon. David Kabaka Gachuru
18. Hon. David Muhoro Njeri

Members further recommended to the committee on Procedure and Rules to revise the Assembly's standing orders to suit the following; that the sectoral and the select committees to have membership of a minimum of nine and a maximum of 17 members.

To add on it the membership of the committees is now in line with another schedule. Immediately you change one member you will now change the schedule of the committees because the member goes with the membership. The schedule goes that the county public investment committee, delegated legislation, budget and appropriation to be meeting at Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Committee on implementation, public works, roads and transport, finance and economic planning, youth culture and social services and agriculture, livestock and fisheries at 12 p.m. Wednesday.

Health services, land, housing, physical planning and settlement, water, energy, forestry, environment, natural resources and cooperative management, governance, labour and social welfare and justice and legal affairs on Thursday at 10 a.m. Trade, industrialization, tourism and wildlife, education, child welfare information at 12 p.m. and liaison at 11 a.m. Thursday. If we alter the membership a bit, it will affect the schedule. Members you now have a chance to go through it and my request is you agree to pass it and not ask me to withdraw because I do not know what to do with it.

This work was very tedious and I know members may not be comfortable as I was even not comfortable moving from governance to education but I could not do anything. I call upon Hon. Karina to second the motion and I request members to assist us to bring normalcy in committees meetings.

Hon. Charles Karina: I thank you Madam Speaker mine is to second the motion and ask the members to support the report. It was tedious job to place members in various committees without consulting them.

I know it was difficult but for the smooth running of the Assembly I would request members to support the report so that we can have a smooth running. I promise the members that life will never be the same again if we adopt this report. We will be very productive. I thank you Madam Speaker.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Joseph Ndung'u: I thank you Madam Speaker. I stand to support the report though I wanted the chair to check on the liaison because he has said the rules and procedure committee should consider minimum of nine and maximum of 17 members whereas liaison are 18 members. So it means liaison will not be part of it. I urge him to change from 17 to 18 members so that he liaison committee can fit thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Hon. Ndung'u I think on that one if you look at who composes the liaison there is nothing much we can do about that, but let me hear what the members will say.

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: I support the motion however I am not comfortable. If you look at the sectoral committees there are two committees that have very big numbers that is education and trade. I welcome members to the committee but I think when it comes to budgeting I seek that they should be considered exceptionally in terms of budget.

Otherwise if we share the same with the membership that we have, my committee and that of the education will be exhausting our allocation very fast.

Hon. James Kagoni: I stand to support the motion and make only two observations, some of which have been noted by the previous speakers. When you look at the two sectoral committees that the chair of trade has mentioned you find that the membership is quite long and you check at some like rules and procedures you find that they have only five members may be some can be shared there.

Again I want to request the chair to consider whether the liaison can be meeting on Tuesday and not on Thursday because it looks like where it has been fixed it will only be a one hour business and it has proved to be practically impossible to their business in one hour. Since there is no any other committee that meets on Tuesday besides the Assembly business committee if they are to be allocated on that day then it would have been far much better.

Hon. Joseph Njoroge: I stand to support with amendments because if you look at some committees there are some members mostly in liaison who have four committees while the other members have three committees. I would like the committee to sit down and reorganize all the members to be equal Madam Speaker.

Hon. Duncan Njuguna: I am also I dilemma Madam Speaker because members of selection committee if you check from the list, they have four standing committees and at least two sectoral committees and I wonder how they will manage to be productive on the said committees.

Madam Temporary Speaker, as I stand I am only in one sectoral committee, the other two or three are standing committees, the business of this House comes from the sectoral committees; not from the standing committees. Therefore, I am made irrelevant being in only one sectoral committee.

There is no way the Liaison committee, the House Business committee and the Powers and Privileges committee will bring businesses to this House. Therefore, Madam Temporary Speaker, I am left with only one committee.

I do not know the plan or motive of transferring me from the other sectoral committees and leaving me in only one. I know I will not win the game because maybe the Ayes will carry the day. However, I am not in support of the list as presented by the Selection committee. Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker.

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): The Mover to respond.

Hon. Peter Kihungi: Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker, I want to clarify that there was no motive. Honestly, our work is to try and make sure that the committees are practical by making sure that a member is not in two committees at the same time. This concern emerged when I was requested by the Liaison committee to act on the members who were not attending the committees regularly. However, when I questioned the

members, they told me that they could not manage to attend certain committees because they were attending other committees.

The chair of a committee can now act on a member if he or she fails to attend the committee. We can, even as the Selection committee, be in a position to act on such a member. However, if a member is absent but attended another committee, you cannot be in a position to do so. I think that the other issue is a bit practical. It is true when the Liaison and Education committees say that they have big numbers, this is easier to deal with. It is easier to deal with budgeting because it is easier to consider a committee based on the number of members it has than working with members who you cannot manage to move, the schedule collapses if one member is moved.

Being a Member of the Assembly Service Board, I am a witness that members have raised this concern. For example, the committee on Trade and that of Education have been having many members, such committees must, automatically, be considered whenever we are considering the budgeting. It will be easier to solve it through budgeting than moving members because immediately you begin moving members the rest of the schedule collapses.

The other issue has been raised by the Hon. member who has talked of the Liaison committee meeting on Tuesday. It is also easier to allocate time for the Liaison committee; however, one hour might not be practical. That was not part of the report, we were to adopt the list of members in committees. The schedule of when the members will be meeting was not part of the report. It will now be easier to trace time for the Liaison committee because it is a committee of the chairs. If we have 10 Chairmen, that will be the membership of the Liaison committee or if they will be 20 Chairmen, that will be the membership. Therefore, the Liaison committee is not limited in terms of numbers, that is why it is referred to as a committee of the chairs.

Madam Speaker, I am therefore very grateful to the Hon. members for they understand the crisis we are in. I knew we would not manage to satisfy everybody but it will be easier to assist a member who may be extremely crippled. If I am to be honest, the most affected members are the chairmen of the committees. Most of the chairmen have been shifted from most committees because when they were being elected chairpersons, they did not belong to the Liaison committee. When we were balancing the committees and trying to consider how many committees a member should have, we had to shift the chairpersons from some committees to factor in the Liaison committee. That way, we were able to balance. We can be in a position to sit if a member is critically affected.

I do not however want to promise because I fear that we might affect the schedule, we can work on it after its operationalization. Therefore, Madam Temporary Speaker, I request the members to allow us implement this report. I personally know that we will feel its impact.

If I, for instance, cite the committee on Delegated Legislation, it did not have work because we did not have Acts that we had passed. However, we now have Acts that we have passed while others are in the process. It is the work of the committee on Delegated Legislation to see to it that all the Acts have Regulations.

Some members might be seen to be in many committees because a member might, for instance, belong to the Appointment committee, such a committee only sits when, for example, a County Executive Committee Member (CEC) has been appointed into an office

and vetting needs to be done. Another example is the Selection committee whereby when we present such a report, our work ends there. We will then have work when the timeline of some committees lapses; some committees are scheduled to be in place for a period of three years. There are some committees which are in the schedule but I did not read them because you cannot control the meetings of such committees.

However, a committee like that on Delegated Legislation can hold meetings every week because we now have legislations and they need to regulations. Whoever thinks that to be a dominant committee is wrong; it will be the busiest committee since the Acts are now in place.

Therefore, Madam Temporary Speaker, I humbly request the members to support the report and adopt it. Let us criticise it after operationalizing it and seeing how it works. It will favour the chairpersons of committees because they will be comfortable and powerful. They will now be in a position to push a member who fails to attend meetings. You cannot question such a member when you are not sure if he or she was attending another committee. I request the members to support this report so that we make our committees powerful and effective. That will be to the benefit of this Assembly and to the people of Murang'a. Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)
(Applause)

Next Order

BILLS

MURANG'A COUNTY PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BILL, 2015 - FIRST READING

(The Bill was read for the first time)
(Bill referred to the relevant sectoral committee)

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Next Order.

MOTION OF ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE

CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN MURANG'A COUNTY

Hon. Mary Waithira: Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker, I hope I will be heard; I am having some cold. I wish to move a motion for Adjournment;

Pursuant to standing order no. 53(b), I beg that the Assembly now adjourns to discuss an urgent and definite matter of rising cases of cholera outbreak in our County.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I felt that, since we are now back from recess, there is need to discuss the challenge of cholera in Murang'a County. To give a short background of the disease, I want to say that cholera was first detected in Nairobi. It was later detected in Nakuru, followed by Coast, and then Murang'a County at number four. As we speak, it is written in the local dailies that Murang'a is leading as far as cholera cases are concerned. The transmission of cholera is as a result of human waste, either contained in food, water, or contamination from houseflies.

Madam Temporary Speaker, as we speak, we already have a station in Guthuro where our patients are being taken. The cases have been rising at an alarming manner. Right now, we are talking of 573 cases that have been listed there. Five deaths have been

registered while a sixth one occurred on 21st May 2015, where a patient was brought to Murang'a Hospital. The patient died while being transferred to Guthuro health centre when he was detected to have cholera. This patient was from Maragi. It is of essence that this House discusses---

(Hon. James Kagoni rose on a point of order)

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): What is it Hon. Kagoni?

Hon. James Kagoni: On a point of order Madam Temporary Speaker, my good friend, the Hon. member has moved a Motion for Adjournment which was not seconded. She has proceeded to discuss the urgent matter. This being a House of procedure, it is important to consider that.

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): I agree with you Hon. Kagoni but she is trying to bring out why she is moving the Motion for Adjournment. She will ask for a seconder after that, let us give her time.

Hon. Mary Waithira: Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker, I was saying that I saw it of essence that this House discusses the issue of cholera and maybe see how we can team up with the Executive to come up with the best way of calming it before it continues with the rate at which it is spreading.

It is of essence to think of formation of a cholera response team which is going to work on all the cases and try to see the cause of the alarming cases of the disease. In other counties, they have managed to bring down the rate of its spread. However, in our County, the number has been rising. I am of the opinion that a cholera response team be created to make sure that, at least, we have an induction of health workers who are the public health officers who mostly deal with prevention.

Madam Temporary Speaker, if we go to the Constitution, it is the right of our people to access primary health care. That is where we have prevention. When we have this rescue team for cholera in place, it will bring about the public health officers who are going to be reminded on how quick they are supposed to move to make sure that our people get to know how they can take care of themselves because prevention is better and cost effective. We will also have the induction of the community health workers so that they can, at least, also help the public health workers to create the awareness to the members of public because the issues of cholera has all to do with hygiene. If members of public are made aware of how they are supposed to handle the food that they are eating---

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Hon. Mary, you have sought an adjournment, you are now debating yet the members have not given you the right to go on. I just wanted you to state briefly why you want the adjournment.

Hon. Mary Waithira: Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker for that correction, the reason is to maybe look at how we can stop the spread of cholera and bring it to zero. I call upon Hon. James Kariuki to second this Motion for Adjournment. Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker.

Hon. James Kariuki: Madam Temporary Speaker, I rise to second the Motion for Adjournment.

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Okay, the issue for adjournment is open for debate. If there is no person to the adjournment, I grant leave to Hon. Mary to go on.

Hon. Mary Waithira: Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker. I was talking of the support of this House to maybe have the CEC form a cholera rescue team which is going to

conduct some induction to the health workers and mostly the public health officers who deal with prevention. They will also have induction for community health workers so that they can create awareness to our people on how they can take care of themselves from the said disease.

Mostly because it deals with health, our people will be made aware of how they are supposed to handle food, water and the dumpsites. We should not forget that it is our work as the County Government to collect the disposed materials. We are mostly having the garbage not being collected even to an extent of more than two weeks. We are having some of the flies collecting the same germs and later on disposing them on the food that is being sold along the streets.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I had enquired from the Chief Officer on some monies that were given to try and bring down the spread of cholera. I do not know if the money was enough or not because we are supposed to have a lot of printing in form of posters, charts and other relevant materials. The materials should be put in strategic points where members of public pass so that they can read on their own even as we have the health and community health officers continue spreading the said information.

Madam Temporary Speaker, the dumpsites have created a lot of breeding places for the houseflies. The food hawking in the streets and along the roads that are very dusty are also areas where we are having causes of the spreading of the disease. We also have cases of lack of medical certificates by the people who are handling food in some of the kiosks and the hotels that we have. Our people are not really following it as they are supposed to. We still have some kiosks where the food is sold and the said medical certificates are not given. We need to, as a House, compel our CEC to make sure that we fast track this.

Madam Temporary Speaker, how many reported cases shall we continue to have at Guthuro and some of our dear people dying from the same? We would not like to shame our County by continuing to read in the local dailies that we are leading in the same and being compared to areas where the cases were reported first but were handled properly. Therefore, that is why I am requesting these Hon. members to contribute to make sure that we consider what I have raised. Our CEC will then move with speed if we tell him that the rate at which they are resolving the issue is not being felt anywhere because we still have more cases of deaths and the spread of the disease in our County. Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker: Thank you Hon. Mary.

(Question Proposed)

(Hon. James Kariuki rose)

Hon. JK you seconded the Motion.

Hon. James Kariuki: On a point of order, Madam Temporary Speaker, my contention is that we do not have a quorum.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Okay, the Serjeant-at-Arms can ring the bell for five minutes, just to find out if there are Members around the precincts of the Assembly.

(The quorum bell was rung)

(Loud consultations)

Order! members

(Several members entered the Chamber)

Do we now have the quorum?

(Quorum Attained)

Hon. Members, we are discussing an important matter regarding our people. We have already been told that 574 people have been affected, yet we were about to adjourn this Assembly because of lack of quorum. That is very wanting of us as members. The motion is open for debate.

Hon. Martin Mwangi: Thank you very much Madam Temporary Speaker. I also want to support that debate because when we talk of the cholera disease, we know it to be very dangerous. It was only two days ago when we were celebrating the good works of the blessed sister Irene Stefani. The cause of the death of such a good lady was a plague. Cholera can bring very big damage to this County. We might even lose some very good people such as priests, politicians, doctors, and the rest.

Madam Temporary Speaker, this outbreak has not been taken very seriously in our County, starting from the committee of Health in this House. For instance, right now, very few of the members to that committee are in the House, despite having the supplementary order paper.

The Chief Officers and the Executive member have not also taken it seriously because we have not even seen them spray the houseflies that are very dangerous in the spread of cholera. When you move around this town, there is garbage all over, just as it used to be. Therefore, we have not seen the seriousness of the County in trying to contain this outbreak of cholera. We know how dangerous the disease is.

I am therefore supporting the mover of this motion; the County must be seen to do something. When the cholera case was reported, we only saw the Executive vehicles speeding all the way. I am sure that even the Governor went to that place. It was displayed when we went there, but since we went there, we have not seen serious action being taken, apart from the opening of those tunnels in Kabati. We know that the cholera has been reported here. We even have cases that were reported in this town. It will be very serious and dangerous if it happens to spread to one of our schools. The County must therefore pull up its socks. We need to see serious things being done. We want actions and not words. Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker.

Second Chair (Hon. Catherine Mugo): Hon. Mwicigi.

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: Thank you Madam Temporary Speaker, I stand to support this important motion that has been brought to this House this afternoon, there should be a disaster management fund for this county for diseases such as Cholera and any other that are affecting us.

The health workers also need to have protective clothing that will protect them from contracting diseases like the late Blessed Sister Irene Stephanie. It is sad to hear those taken ill are being taken to dispensaries like Nguthuru and we have big hospitals like Murang'a, Maragua where they could get better care.

I do not know how much water is at Nguthuru because as I can remember there was not much water. From what I can remember, Cholera is connected with dirt. What we should

be doing is washing of hands everywhere including schools because spraying of trenches, and this is not about Malaria but about the flies, we should stop this peeling of pineapples, I Kenol you find people peeling pineapples all over.

You do not know what will happen if people eat this, with that number which we have been given, we need to know progress and educate our nurses on how to handle Cholera cases and how they will protect themselves so that it does not spread anymore Madam Speaker. Food vending should stop immediately and even hotels with no proper sanitation and toilets should be closed. Where the toilets are full

(Hon. Duncan Njuguna rose on a point of order)

(Hon Duncan resumed his seat after several members entered Chamber)

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: We are trying to achieve quorum. Madam Speaker; the issue here is on how we can curb the spread of disease by stopping consumption of exposed food where there are no health facilities, and doing all possible things to stop the spread of Cholera.

Hon. Samuel Wandia: Madam Speaker, Cholera is a killer and in the actual fact when the first case was reported in this county, I thought the executive should have come out very strong and educate our people, unfortunately madam Speaker, I have not even heard in my ward whether there are people going out there educating the population to ensure that they boil their drinking water.

Madam Speaker, over the weekend, where I attended the Sunday service, I mentioned it to the congregation to ensure that they take boiled water. I am not trained on health matters, but the little that I learnt in high school is the one that I am using to educate my people.

It is unfortunate, the other day I came to Murang'a general hospital at night and I noted that the staffing is poor; I talked to one of the doctors who told me that the cholera situation was pathetic, because you cannot imagine a patient being transferred all the way from Kariara to come to Murang'a.

What am I saying Madam Speaker? If the county government was serious about this matter, they should have come up with treatment centers in all the sub- counties. Madam Speaker, I also wonder why the county government has not taken any initiative to make public announcements to our people through a public address system to ensure that garbage is not disposed anywhere.

Madam Speaker, I was also in pain when I got to this district hospital and they told me that the Nguthuru centre once got filled with patients and the ones who had stayed in Nguthuru for some time were transferred to Murang'a district hospital and even in the district hospital they do not have a special ward for cholera patients. This implies that the county government is not serious about this matter; it was out of God's will that many people have not died in this county.

Madam Speaker, I have also realized that human waste was being disposed in a river instead of burying it in a pit latrine to prevent fast cholera spread, imagine Madam Speaker. If it is true that the human waste was being thrown in one of the rivers, what about people downstream in the county? Our committee and I know it is strong and I can see the vice-chairman here, if I were them, tomorrow we would sit and diagnose the matter then

recommend to the executive on steps to be taken to deal with this matter since they have the capacity.

That is why they were selected to the committee so that whenever the County Government falls short of reality, they awaken them but Madam Speaker I am sorry even the chair is not here. It is unfortunate because this House should show by example that we matter to all of us, including the executive. Thank you

Hon. Cecilia Gitu: I want to congratulate the mover of this motion because it is a matter of utter importance that this Assembly rises to the occasion. We are the ears and the eyes of the community in the county. It is us to create awareness; people are going on with their businesses unaware of what is happening. Even in town, you see them going around eating anywhere without washing their hands. What other members have said that we should oversight the executive and know what is happening to deal with the menace because it can wipe away our people. I remember somebody telling me that it was there in 1920's and that she lost all her children.

In the 21st Century ladies and gentlemen, we should not have a case of cholera anywhere since we are scientifically advanced and it is something that can be dealt with. Laxity is what we are suffering from. I know we have the capacity to deal with it but we have to prompt the executive to action.

Madam Speaker, I suggest we have a committee to deal with this menace, made up of members from this Assembly, the executive and some members of the community. We should demand a report on the status of the menace and then we would be able to know what is remaining and what is to be done.

As the members are saying, let our health committee engage the CEC member for Health, get a report and bring it to us and we will then know whether they are actually doing anything.

As much as we are living with Wanjiku down there, Wanjiku is oblivious of what is happening and danger is there. Those of us who have read a little on health sciences knows that cholera is one dangerous disease that can wipe away our people because they are not aware, they are ignorant and some lack capacity to get this information. Some of them do not even have radios or TV's; they do not know that there is this going on. So we are saying, let us get a status report from the executive then the committee to act on that report so that we know the way forward, thank you

Hon. Florence Nyambura: Thank you Madam Speaker, I congratulate the mover, one and a half months ago, I was calling the member for Township ward because of a leaked sewage pipe and a foul smell that was all over town, he told me that he will call Murang'a Water and Sewerage Company.

Companies managing sewages need to be brought to board to manage these disasters, you go to some of these places with filled up pits and wonder whether we have public health workers, if there are people sleeping on their job, this is the high time to wake them up and work to deal with this issue.

The CEC member for health should supervise public health workers on the ground up to the ward level. It is not a wonder to move around our homes and note that there are no toilets. When identifying disability issues, I went to several homes where there are no pit latrines and where there is, you cannot use them.

This county government is using a lot of money advertising on Kameme FM, why can't our county government take a session on the radio to enable our people to be trained on how they will prevent themselves because prevention is better than cure. So madam Speaker, I support the motion, even if it will be tomorrow, the health committee should report something to the Assembly so that we will see how far we have gone with the issue. I can also contract cholera and so is everyone here, we are all candidates

The closed food places are only during the day, but at night, people are saying there are no officers, therefore people doing businesses at night do not pay license rates, the county government should insist on having toilets in all bars and food places, they had started so in my area, but you go to some areas and wonder whether you are in the same Murang'a.

The County government should wake up and train our people, I remember in this House we had a special session where we talked about security and somebody somewhere woke up. I hope even today after we have talked about this, somebody somewhere will wake up. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Hon. Duncan Njuguna: Madam Speaker, I am glad to note that the Hon. members who were called by a bell are the best contributors in this motion and I am wondering why they had considered going away with such good contributions.

I rose to support the motion, as the Hon. members who have contributed earlier have stated, cholera is one of the fastest killer diseases in the world. If it were to spread across the County, it could wipe so many people simply because the department of health in Murang'a County government has slept on its job.

Last year, I requested for a statement from the same department through the Health committee and the good vice-chair Hon. Kagoni stood and said that I wait for 21 days and I would get my response regarding health issues in Gitugi where you have those operating hotels which are not hygienically up to the standard of selling food items. To date, I have never received a response. Although they operate from town centre, they do not have pit latrines. It is the high time that we create awareness that cholera can kill and affect each and every person if it is not well checked.

In our homes we are going on with our daily business without realizing that most of the things we are working with like water, fresh fruits and food can affect us. I therefore say that the health committee, the CEC health should wake up and be serious so that our people in Murang'a County will not continue dying while lying at Nguthuru which is just a health centre but not a hospital, even the situation out there is not as good as we think. So I wish that the CEC and the committee wake up and work for our people. Thank you.

Hon. James Kagoni: Madam Speaker, I want to agree with the sentiments of the Hon. members who have spoken. It is true cholera is a killer and we have an outbreak in our County. Out of the seven counties mentioned as cholera prone, Murang'a is one of them. Madam Speaker, I want to sympathize and empathize with the affected people especially in go through area as he mover has mentioned. May I bring it to the attention of the members that we have a Chief Officer who is doing a lot

(Hon. Duncan Njuguna rose on a point of order)

Hon. Duncan Njuguna: The Hon. Vice- chair for health is misleading this House, there is nowhere in the county called go through, we know of Nguthuru

Second Chair (Hon Catherine Mugo): Hon Kagoni substantiate

Hon. James Kagoni: It depends with the accent of where we were brought up; I still meant the same place Nguthuru. Maybe to inform the member for Gitugi that the members from that community could not be able to mention that place as 'go through' like the English man, they were saying Nguthuru but the actual name is go through. I know now he is educated on that.

Second Chair (Hon Catherine Mugo): do you now retract your words or you insist that the place is called 'go through'.

Hon James Kagoni: The place is called go through Madam Speaker, I am Sure the place is called go through, I can share some history.

Second Chair (Hon Catherine Mugo): I need evidence to that because as far as I am concerned, the place is called Nguthuru, can you retract your words.

Hon. James Kagoni: Madam Speaker the name is Nguthuru, I do not know whether I got it right, Nguthuru. Well my point was that we have an able chief officer who is doing a lot. I may not speak for the CEC but I can speak for the chief officer who has already taken measures to control the cholera outbreak that we are experiencing.

One of these measures, the chief officer has ordered that there will be no food hawking in our County and this is a rule that has already taken root. In many places, going forward Madam Speaker he has ordered that hotels should not offer any raw food including *kachumbari* or any other; it is only that Wa Dishon has not had a chance to go visit any of the hotels

(Hon Charles Kirigwi rose on a point of order)

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: Being the first day of the session I regrettably inform the House that we lack quorum. I think we have not come from leave.

Second Chair (Hon Catherine Mugo): Hon, Whip can you call your members

Hon. Martin Mwangi: Madam Speaker, some are saying they are going to the toilet and I cannot see them there, so this is also a matter of discipline. Madam Speaker, I pray we adjourn debate and continue tomorrow, or we can be signing the attendance register twice, when we go to the new Assembly that we are refurbishing. This problem will not be there since we will have a way of knowing who is in and who is not. Some members have the habit of signing the attendance register and going to their businesses leaving others without quorum.

I request you to adjourn the House and we continue with the debate tomorrow and to the Speaker, I pray that a communication be made that members should stick until the end.

Second Chair (Hon Catherine Mugo): Given this is a substantive motion that we were not putting any question, I will allow Hon. Kagoni to continue and then we will settle this motion.

Hon. James Kagoni: Thank you Madam Speaker for noticing the urgency of the motion and the danger that is there. As I was saying, there are already measure issued by the chief officer health, like banning food hawking and raw food in hotels. Maybe the degree of implementation may not be where we want it to be, but something is being done. I can speak on behalf of chief officer health because he is doing something.

In fact one of his greatest frustrations was when issuing the ban on food hawking, it is actually we as members of this House who said that our people are being punished for no good reason and that was after some people died due to eating meat supplied around

Kabati before the cholera outbreak was announced. Much as we are pointing fingers, it is important to check on ourselves not to incite them without knowing.

As much as we want our hawkers to do business, it is good to be aware that food hawking has contributed a lot to the cholera outbreak we are talking of. As the health committee, we have already received a policy on food hawking which was stern on the people.

I want to reinstate the hope of the members that something is being done and the Chief Officer is on the ground. I am also aware that he has requested the community health workers, who are very few in our county, and I remember the mover of the motion brought the motion to increase the number of community health workers. He has requested all CHW's to visit schools talking about cholera, but Mr. Speaker, health begins with an individual. As leaders we have an obligation, wherever we will find opportunities to speak in public barazas and forums to talk to the people who do not have pit latrines as Hon. Florence mentioned to be able to do it because health begins with ourselves.

I agree other measures can be brought on board like what was requested by Hon. Florence we can also use the media to speak to our people and let them understand that it is important to take care of themselves and other basic hygiene measures that can be taken because Madam Speaker you go anywhere in the public, people wash their hands with water alone. Madam Speaker, I am adequately informed, that you are only washing your brains, but the dirt is still in your hands. We can also contribute when we neglect those basic hygiene measures.

As a committee we are taking it seriously, the chief officer is doing something though there are still other measures that we can work on to ensure we control the menace. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Second Chair (Hon Catherine Mugo): I allowed the motion to continue because we will not put a question. The debate was to enable members acquit themselves with what is happening in our County and I am sure that the vice- chair has heard the sentiments raised by the members and we needed not adjourn because several members have contributed to the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

The House stands adjourned until tomorrow 2:30p.m.

The House rose at 4:06p.m