

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 30th April, 2023

The Assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 2:30 p.m.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jackson Lelenkeju), in the Chair

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jackson Lelenkeju): Hon. Members, I wish to stipulate the procedure to apply for the election of the speaker as follows; Hon. Members, Section 11 of the County Government Act, 2012 and standing order No. 4(2) of the County Assembly of Samburu standing orders provides that the office of the speaker became vacant on the resignation of the speaker on 16th May, 2023.

Hon. Members, standing order No. 4(2) provides that if the office of the speaker falls vacant at any time before the expiry of the term of the County Assembly, no business shall be transacted by the County Assembly until the election of a new speaker. Hon. Members, Standing order No. 4(3) provides that the deputy speaker shall preside over election under paragraph (2), if the deputy speaker is a candidate, a member elected by the County Assembly in accordance with Article 178(2) of the Constitution shall preside. Hon. Members, in this case I am not a candidate and therefore, I preside over this election.,

Hon Members, In accordance with County Assembly of Samburu standing orders the following procedural requirements are to be fulfilled before the election of the speaker is conducted.

1. Standing Order No. 5(1) requires the clerk to notify the public of a vacancy in the office of the speaker by a notice in the Kenya gazette and invite interested persons to submit their nomination papers for election in the office of the speaker.

Hon. Members, the Clerk did notify the public and invited interested persons to submit their nomination papers for election to the office of the speaker by a gazette notice no. 6752 dated 22nd May, 2023.

2. Hon. Members, Standing order No, 5(2) requires that the names of candidates for election to the office of Speaker shall be entered upon nomination papers obtained from the Clerk and handed back to the Clerk, at least forty-eight hours before the time appointed at which the County Assembly is to meet to elect a Speaker.

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND
SESSION

3. Hon. Members, as per the Gazette notice and public advert in the newspapers the clerk had given all interested persons up to 28th May, 2023 to collect and submit the nomination papers. Hon. Members the Clerk has also maintained a register for purpose of collection and receipt of nomination papers in accordance with the provision of standing Order No. 5(4).
 - a. Hon. Members, in Accordance with Standing Order No. 5(5) immediately upon the close of nomination period, the Clerk publicized and made available to all members a list showing all qualified candidates for election to the office of speaker of the County Assembly of Samburu and copies of curriculum vitae of all qualified candidates were also availed.

Hon. Members, the following persons collected nomination papers from the office of the Clerk of County Assembly of Samburu from Monday 21st to Sunday 28th May, 2023 between the hours of 8.00 am and 5.00 pm;

1. Ms. Josephine Kulea
2. Mr. Lodungokiok Ben
3. Mr. Richard Lemeede
4. Mr. Stephen Lenamarle
5. Mr. Michael Loikenu Lenasalon
6. Hon. Alois Lentoimaga
7. Mr. Daniel Letooiye

Hon Members, as per the Gazette Notice No. 6752, a person who collected nomination papers was required to submit the completed papers together with their *curriculum vitae* and relevant supporting documents to the Office of the Clerk, at the main Assembly Building, Maralal, not later than Sunday 28th May, 2023, for purposes of both collection and submission of the nomination papers.

Hon Members, at the close of the nomination period, the following five persons had submitted their nomination papers for election as Speaker of the County Assembly of Samburu;

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND
SESSION

1. Ms. Josephine Kulea
2. Mr. Lodungokiok Ben
3. Mr. Stephen Lenamarle
4. Hon. Alois Lentoimaga
5. Mr. Daniel Letooiye

Hon Members, Pursuant to the provisions of Article 178 of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 5 of County Assembly of Samburu Standing Orders, of the people who completed and submitted their nomination papers, the following persons qualifies as candidates for election as Speaker;

1. Ms. Josephine Kulea
2. Mr. Stephen Lenamarle
3. Hon. Alois Lentoimaga
4. Mr. Daniel Letooiye

Hon. Members, in accordance with the provision of standing order No. 8, the Clerk has also received letter from Hon. Alois Lentoimaga and Mr. Daniel Letoiye withdrawing from the election and therefore the following two persons, will participating in the election;

1. Ms. Josephine Kulea
2. Mr. Stephen Lenamarle

Hon. Members, I wish to inform you that the copies of the curriculum vitae of all the qualified candidates have been provided to all members and if there is any member who does not have, kindly raise your hand so that the Sergeant-at-Arm can give you.

Hon. Members, standing Order No. 6 provides as follows regarding the voting procedure where more than one candidate qualifies to stand for election as the Speaker;

(1) Election of the speaker shall be by a secret ballot.

(2) The Clerk shall, at the commencement of each ballot, cause the ballot box, empty and unlocked, to be displayed to the County Assembly and shall, in the presence of the County

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND
SESSION

Assembly, lock the box, which shall thereafter be kept in the full view of the County Assembly until the conclusion of the ballot

Hon. Members, we shall proceed to issue ballot papers to you which will be issued by the clerk assistant at the table to each member in a manner I will guide and therefore, when your name is called, you will receive one ballot paper at the table and proceed to the voting booth, mark your ballot paper and proceed to cast your vote.

Hon. Members, just for clarity, a member who wishes to vote shall mark his ballot paper by placing a visible mark in the box provided for besides the name of the preferred candidate as a member wishes to vote for. Therefore, the member should vote and fold the marked ballot paper before leaving the booth and deposit the folded ballot paper in the ballot box.

Hon. Members, a member who in the process of voting has marked his or her paper in error may, by returning to the clerk, obtain another ballot paper in its place and the clerk shall immediately cancel and destroy the paper so returned.

Hon Members, the polling booth has been provided which is situated at my left hand side of the chamber and the Clerk Assistant at the table have ballot papers containing the names of the qualified candidates, therefore, your names will be called and pick ballot paper from the clerks' assistant at the table and proceed to vote by putting a mark in the space provided against your candidate.

Hon. Members, verification and counting of ballots shall take place in the presence of members appointed as agents or representatives by the candidates and for clarity each candidate is allowed to have a maximum of one agent or representative for the purpose of the ballot. Hence, I need to identify the agents for each candidate; Dr. Josephine Kulea and Mr. Stephen Lenarmale.

I therefore, direct the Clerk to show to the Members' empty ballot box and lock the box which shall be kept in the full view of the county assembly until the conclusion of the ballot.

(The empty ballot box is displaced to the Members present at the Chamber)

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND
SESSION

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Lelenkeju Jackson): Hon. Members, I now ask the Clerk at the table to proceed and call out the names of the Members to vote.

1. Hon. Lemoosa Maura Lekuram
2. Hon. Christopher Lentukunye
3. Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence Sebastian
4. Hon. Osman Adan Dube
5. Hon. Hassan Mohamed Asha
6. Hon. Lenamatiyio Silapia
7. Hon. Leshimpiro Paul Husima
8. Hon. Stacy Nareyio Lekirimpoto
9. Hon. Lelenkeu Jackson Layan
10. Hon. Lealmusia Ali
11. Hon. Lenyakopiro Charity Pleipa
12. Hon. Lekuchula David Leinas
13. Hon. Esther Lenolkulal
14. Hon. Eunice Serah Lekirenyei
15. Hon. Lemartile Francis Ltirisen
16. Hon. Leleruk James Koileken
17. Hon. Lenanguram James Ntiituk
18. Hon. Loragae Jane Nakinyi
19. Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah Loitemu
20. Hon. Loloju Joseph Lekoren
21. Hon. Lpesina Kelvin Lemantaan
22. Hon. Leerte Patrick
23. Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix Caunda
24. Hon. Lolosoli Rebecca Samaria
25. Hon. Ngigi Stephen Kagiri

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND
SESSION

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jackson Lelenkeju): Hon. Members, Standing Orders number 6(6) reads as follows; When it appears to the Clerk that all Members who are present and who wish to vote have placed their ballot papers in the ballot box the Clerk shall unlock the box, examine the ballot papers and having rejected those unmarked or spoiled report the results of the ballot and no Member who has not already recorded his or her vote shall be entitled to do so after the Clerk has unlocked the box.

Having noticed that all Members who wish to vote have voted I now ask for the presence of agents for Dr. Kulea and Mr. Stephen Lenamarle to come forward so that the box can be unlocked, examine ballot papers and report the results of the ballot. The agents please.

(Hon. Lenamparasio comes to the floor of the House to represent Mr. Lenamarle)

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jackson Lelenkeju): Hon. Lenamparasio you represent Stephen Lenamarle. From my observation here, I see one agent representing Mr. Stephen Lenamarle. No agent for Dr. Kulea. Clerk proceed to open the box. Let me appoint one Member to represent Dr. Kulea as her agent or representative who is Hon. Leshimpiro.

(Ballot box opened and votes examined)

RESULTS OF THE VOTE

1. Mr. Stephen Lenamarle – 23 votes.
2. Dr. Josephine Kulea – 2 Votes.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jackson Lelenkeju): Hon. Members, I now proceed to announce the results of the ballot. Dr. Josephine Kulea – 2 votes, Mr. Steven Lenamarle -23 votes, abstentions -0, spoiled votes – 0, total number of members voting – 25. Honorable members, elections threshold. Standing Order number 71 provides that a person shall not be elected as a speaker unless supported by two-thirds of all members. Honorable members, this two-thirds is not a constitutional requirement but a procedural step to ease the election of a Speaker in the first round of the ballot and the procedural threshold applies only in the first round of voting and does not affect the quorum on the commencement and the continuation of the sitting and the election.

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND SESSION

Honorable members, as stated above under Standing Order number 71 provides that a person shall not be elected a Speaker unless supported in the ballot by the votes of two-thirds of the members. That is the case unless supported by the votes of 17 members. Honorable members, therefore, from the results, Mr. Steven Lenamarle has received 23 votes therefore it is clear; Mr. Steven Lenamarle has secured the two-thirds in the first round. Honorable members I now declare Mr. Steven Lenamarle as the Speaker elect and I direct the Sergeant-At-Arms to look for him identify and present him to me here in the assembled assembly so that he may subscribe to the oath and affirmation of office.

Honorable members, I would like to take you to the provisions of the Standing Order Number 12 on the swearing in of the Speaker. The Standing Orders read as follows: following the election of the Speaker, the Clerk shall administer the Oath or the affirmation of office the Speaker in the presence of the assembled Assembly but in our case the Deputy Speaker is presiding. Honorable members pursuant to Standing Order number 12 I shall now proceed to administer the Oath and Affirmation of Office to the Speaker elect.

Speaker Elect, (Mr. Lenamarle Steven): I, Steven Lenamarle having been elected as Speaker of the County Assembly of Samburu do swear in the name of Almighty God that I shall always truly and diligently serve the people and the Republic of Kenya in the office of the Speaker of the County Assembly of Samburu, that I shall respect, uphold, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Republic of Kenya and that I shall do right to all manner of persons in accordance with the Constitution of Kenya and the laws and the conventions of the parliament without fear or favor, affection or ill health. So help me God.

The Speaker (Mr. Lenamarle Steven): His Excellency the Governor, the Deputy Governor, respected Senator, esteemed County Women Representative whom I know is not present, Honorable members of Parliament present, honorable members of the County Assembly, the County Executive Members, Staff of the County Government, all distinguished members of the public, ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

Honorable members and distinguished guests, before I begin, I would like to acknowledge the recent event that has brought us here today- Honorable Fred Lengees, our esteemed former Speaker resigned from his position after receiving an opportunity to work at the United Nations.

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND SESSION

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Hon. Lengees for his dedication and service to Samburu County. We wish him great success in his new endeavor.

Honorable members and distinguished guests, we concluded the race of the Speakership and I want to express my gratitude to honorable Deputy Speaker, Jackson Lelenkeju the presiding officer in this exercise, the Clerk Mr. Patrick Leshore and the secretariat for conducting it in a credible and transparent manner. I am deeply humbled by the fact that this assembly has chosen me as the fourth Speaker of the Samburu County Assembly, bestowing upon me the honor of being the first amongst equals. I extend my profound appreciation to all of you for conferring this honor upon me.

I also want to acknowledge my worthy competitors in the race and emphasize the importance of working together for the benefit of our County. I extend my arm of collaboration and cooperation to you all. I accept this responsibility with magnanimity wholly aware of the shoes I must fill after Hon. Lengees' departure. I'm committed to upholding the dignity of this House at all times. I will strive to fulfill the responsibilities entrusted to me guided by the principles of transparency, fairness and accountability.

Honorable members, I am not under any illusion of being elevated above any seat in this chamber. I remain a colleague to whom you have entrusted this responsibility. This trust humbles me and challenges me to stay true to the path you have designed for me. Honorable members this speech cannot define with accomplished. That task will be performed collectively as we embark on our tour of duty. However, I assure you that I will provide the leadership you deserve to fulfill our statutory functions and take our integration process to new heights. I will spare no efforts in leading you to maintain high moral standards allowing us to effective oversight over other institutions.

To the staff, I extend my sincere gratitude for your contributions to this County Assembly, the honorable members hold in high esteem the role you play in facilitating their mission. We will continue to work together as a team and as a family. Honorable members and distinguished guests, promoting good governance requires an assembly that effectively performs the three cardinal functions of representation, oversight and legislation. Our ability to control public expenditure will serve our people well.

CAS/053/005/2023 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU 3RD ASSEMBLY 2ND SESSION

As outlined in Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya the role of the County Assembly is to legislate on all matters necessary on incidental to the effective performance and exercise of powers of the County Governments under the 4th Schedule. The County Assembly is also mandated to exercise oversight over the County Executive committee and any other County Executive organs while respecting the principle of separation of powers. Furthermore, the assembly is responsible for approving plans and policies for the management and exploitation of the County's resources as well as the development and management of infrastructure and institutions.

Honorable members it is evident that we have a crucial constitutional responsibility therefore we must conduct ourselves with seriousness to ensure justice for all the people of this great county and equitable distribution of resources throughout. We will fulfill these responsibilities guided by the constitution, National and County Statutes and the Standing Orders of this House. We will strive to build our capacity to optimize service delivery to the people of Samburu County.

Honorable members, on your behalf and on my own I thank all the member who served in this Assembly for steering it to the impressive level that we have found it. As I conclude I wish you all a successful tour of duty and reiterate my resolve to provide the leadership you deserve to the best of my ability. I thank you for your kind attention. Thank you very much. God bless you all and God bless Samburu County. Honorable members, the time being 10:40am pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order number 13,1 and 2, the Assembly now adjourns until 6th June 2023 at 2:30pm.