REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 7th October, 2026

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we do have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell rings for ten minutes.

(The quorum bell rung for ten minutes)

Speaker: Clerk, confirm whether we have got quorum now.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell continue ringing for five more minutes.

(The quorum bell rung for five minutes)

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we do have quorum now.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: Thank you. Now that we have quorum, I direct that the bell stops ringing and without much ado we proceed with the business of the House.

NOTICE OF MOTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNTY GAZETTE POLICY

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT Article 199 of the Constitution of Kenya provides that county legislation does not take effect unless published in the Gazette;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the County Governments Act, 2012 provides for the publication of important formal decisions of the Governor and the County Executive Committee in the County Gazette;

RECOGNISING the importance of timely, accessible and transparent publication of County legislation, regulations, appointments, notices, policies, administrative decisions and other matters of public interest;

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CONCERNED THAT the absence of a structured and consistent framework for the publication and dissemination of County Government information may limit public access to official county decisions and legislation;

COGNIZANT of the constitutional principles of transparency, accountability, public participation and access to information in County governance;

This House URGES the County Government to develop and operationalize a County Gazette Policy for the timely publication and public access to County legislation, notices and official decisions.

MOTIONS

ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNTY GAZETTE POLICY

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT Article 199 of the Constitution of Kenya provides that county legislation does not take effect unless published in the Gazette;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the County Governments Act, 2012 provides for the publication of important formal decisions of the Governor and the County Executive Committee in the County Gazette;

RECOGNISING the importance of timely, accessible and transparent publication of County legislation, regulations, appointments, notices, policies, administrative decisions and other matters of public interest;

CONCERNED THAT the absence of a structured and consistent framework for the publication and dissemination of County Government information may limit public access to official county decisions and legislation;

COGNIZANT of the constitutional principles of transparency, accountability, public participation and access to information in County governance;

This House URGES the County Government to develop and operationalize a County Gazette Policy for the timely publication and public access to County legislation, notices and official decisions.

Mr. Speaker, this motion is of importance because we have come to realize that most policies that have been developed within the County Government of Laikipia are nowhere to be seen in the public eye. They will tell us that they have got an official website where they put these policies but I have come to realize that when you go to those website, they are never updated on time. The only thing that is usually updated is only job opportunities. They are hidden within the pages in the website.

It is important that we have a gazette policy where everything that has been passed by this Assembly and within the cabinets is formally put there so that everybody is cognizant of the policies and the notices and the decisions that have been made by the County Government, so that the public is aware of what has been passed and the laws and polices put in place.

There has been a lot of complaints from organizations saying that they cannot be able to access some of the information. As a matter of fact, some organizations need to do transparency and accountability, it is hard for them to get these publications that the County Government say they are in their website. Going to the website, you never see this information and it is high time we have our own. We are not replacing the Kenya Gazette but it is a matter

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of having our own county gazette so that we are able to put the policies, legislations and the regulations that we have already developed.

The Kenya gazette is the official publication being used in the Country of Kenya but this will be recognizing that we have been given that authority to create our own gazette policy where we can put all policies, notices and decision for public interest. I would like to ask Hon. Theuri to second this motion.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand in support of the same. Before I second, there are two questions as to why we should put this as a priority. The county gazette is important in this essence; One, it is the official way that the government speaks to the people. This is the only way the government of the day communicates to the common citizens directly.

More so, it is one of the ways to fight with corruption because as much as it hassmall details, it affects the community or the country in one way or another. For instance, I believe in one, Hon. Kagondu and people should know that his name is Stephen Kamau. Maybe in the future, he wants to be the Governor or the Senator of Laikipia County, many people do not know him as Mr. Stephen Kamau but know him as Mr. Kagondu. If he wants to adopt the same name, it must be gazetted so that it can be acknowledged.

I know him as a businessman. If you transact business with Stephen Ndiritu Kamau and another business where he identifies himself as Kagondu, those are two different things. If he happens to stand before a court of law, he has a leeway to escape. He will say what he was just about to say here; that he is not called Kagondu, even though we know him by that name. So, that is the way the government speaks and how we make things legal.

Besides the name, Mr. Speaker, it comes even to boundaries. Boundaries are gazetted. Where you live, Mr. Speaker, there are some things that can only be attended to by way of law and are both gazetted and given a duration of time. It is very important that we talk to our people to make it a way of life to buy the same. Sometimes, we are on recess and it becomes a matter of emergency that we come to this house. How can we come to conduct business that is legal if it is not gazetted? If we come here without it being gazetted, whatever business we conduct here will be null and illegal.

So, I am in support of the same. It is one of the tools that make the county and the country grow. Marriages should also be gazetted, even if they are come-we-stay. I know several friends even in this House who have more than five wives but are not gazetted. In the tragic events that they die, they will leave a lot of problems. So, I urge this House to support this for our own benefit.

If we want to run a country that is following the constitution to the letter, the policy of gazettement is one of the tools. We should uphold and support it in any way and make buying the gazette a way of life. I do not know if the government has already done it, but it should even be provided in soft copy. That is because the world is evolving and everything we need is in the phone. I do not know whether the government of the day has made it possible for me to access it on my phone. I support, thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Speaker: Just before you sit down, you have talked about the motion. Do you second it?

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I started on the same, that I second the motion. Thank you.

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(Question proposed)

Speaker: I now open the floor for Members who may wish to contribute to this motion. Hon. Shuel. Switch your mic on, thank you.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: You know Hon. Kagondu is disturbing me even to an extent that he is switching my gadget off. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to appreciate the mover of the motion. This is a very important motion because it is a way of getting information to the public. If you go around Nanyuki or other towns, you will find *Bunge La Wananchi.* If they could access all the information, it would be a good way for them to discuss. When you get the right information, then you have a chance to discuss things which are very true instead of discussing things which are not true. This is a way of passing information from point to point, so it is very important.

The way the government is growing in devolution since 2010, we need to continue putting structures in place. The importance of this Assembly in the devolution setup is so that it can create and fill the gaps that are there to make sure that the structures in the Executive are well established. So, it is very important. I want to appreciate the mover of the motion because he has tried to come up with a way for people to be getting information in a central place. The website might limit us in the obtaining of information, but if all of us can find information in one place, then that will be a way for us to get the right information.

Mr. Speaker, there are so many people, including in social media, who are giving the wrong information. Sometimes we do a very good thing in this county but the people do not get the information, or when we are silent, they think that we are not doing anything. It should be that when we are away, one can just click and get all the information concerning what the government is doing. When you then compare the information with our budget, you will be able to tell whether we are implementing our budget or not. So, it is very important for us to have structures of where we can get information. I want to support this motion so that we can push the Executive to put this structure in place. I support, thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Shuel. The floor is still open. Hon. Daniel Mugweru, I give you the floor.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise in support of this motion. Before I give my contribution, I am dedicated to be reminding the House of some of these things. According to our Standing Orders, nobody should leave the Chamber when we do not have quorum; only when there is quorum or when the Speaker declares the session to be over.

Everybody should remain here so that we do not find ourselves in those games. When we are looking for one person, two go out, when two come in, another three go out. That is illegal. One is supposed to remain here until we get quorum or the session is over. So, it is unfortunate that such things happen in the House.

Having said that, I rise in support of this motion because efficient and timely publication is so important. So many things happen but until they are published, they remain just stories. Having a policy in our County Government that will enable us to be getting timely information is so important. It can be the best because we might be the first ones to do that. So, I would really hope that the motion is taken to the right place and that they are going to do the right thing so that at least, this Third Assembly may be said to be the first to have something that others copy from us. We have been copying from others, so let us now have something that can be copied from us. Thank you.

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Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mugweru for your contribution. Looking at the mood, allow me, Members, to invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the House for supporting this motion. I am hopeful that the County Government will take it seriously to ensure that these policies that they have created, as a County Government it is able to be accessed with the local citizen. The reason for this inspiration was the land act that was published from the National Government. It was affected within our county and most of the people were not aware that some of the information that was done by the National Government, being implemented by the County Government was not even published for the public to know.

Though we do public participation, remember not everyone comes to the public participation but it is important to be aware that there are people who are working, and they might not even participate in the public participation. If this information is put somewhere in the Gazette, they will be able to know these are the policies that the County Government has passed and these are the regulations that the County Government has passed and now we'll be able to do everything according to law.

Most of the people you see breaking the law is not because they don't want to follow but it is because they are not aware of the information and the regulations that the County Government has passed. I would like to thank the House for the support of this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ALTERATION OF THE ASSEMBLY CALENDAR

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki thru' Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of Majority Leader, we have a procedural motion that is an alteration of the Assembly calendar. Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT, notwithstanding the Resolutions of the House of 24th February 2026 and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 29(4) (Calendar of the Assembly), this House resolves to alter its Calendar and to proceed with the last part of the fifth session.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker. The intention of this motion is to alter the calendar and we continue with the sitting because we have so many pending issues and business that should be undertaken by this Assembly.

Hon. Speaker, taking into consideration that we have just come from the recess and we were elected by the people hoping that we will work and burn our midnight oil to make sure that we improve the livelihood of our electorate. So, that was the spirit of this motion to make sure that we work for the citizens. Therefore, I'm urging the House to agree with this motion to alter the calendar and proceed with the last part of the 5th session.

Therefore, I'm requesting the Honourable Member who is also senior in this House, who has experience of working for the people from councillor to now. Hopefully he is proceeding to the Senate or any other position like Governor. This is other than Hon. Leshuel, the MCA from Mukogodo East. Thank you.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you very much Mr. Speaker and the Honourable Member for Thingithu for giving me this chance to second this motion. Mr. Speaker, we alter the Calendar because of so many pending issues. Mr. Speaker, we are here to make sure before we

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leave this House, all structures and the pending issues are completed. Mr. Speaker, it is not that we don't have issues to go and do in the public or to engage our electorate but we want to do some issues before we engage them. Mr. Speaker, the calendar is still there. We will continue going for recess again.

Mr. Speaker, because of the pending issues, we need now to complete those pending issues. Again, Mr. Speaker, the other day, we engaged the public. We know what they want. We are in an exit gate. We want to complete the issues before the end of the term. Despite, Mr. Speaker, the country's alarm because of Ebola, we want to make sure all projects are completed in time.

Where do we engage the Executive? It is in this House, Mr. Speaker. How do we make sure that the speed of the implementation is going on? It is just from this House. So, when we go home, Hon. Lekopien will be engaging a CECM in a very different way, Mr. Speaker but when all of us are here, we can be able to work together and make sure that the speed of the implementation is going on. Mr. Speaker, we have an intention to make sure the implementation of this year's budget is completed before January, February or March.

So, that is why we have so many things that we want to move. We have so many things that we want to discuss in this House. We have so many engagements that we have with the Executive including the CO, so that we can be able to push other things. That is the reason why we want to alter the calendar for probably a week. That week, we will be doing serious things. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Members, I open the floor for those who may require to contribute. In this respect, I want to give the floor to the Hon. Kaniaru.

Hon. Denis Kaniaru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. First, I want to say that we came back yesterday and for this reason we have a lot of business that we need to transact. Noting that we have few months to the elections and the electorates have a lot of hope with this House, so when we are here, we are supposed to transact each and every business, so that we ensure that there is no pending business.

Mr. Speaker, it is now the high time the Chairman Committee on the CPAIC, the Hon. Lekopien in the morning he said that we have been in recess. That's why we have not been able to talk or to discuss the reports pertaining to the audit. So, this is the high time that all those reports, should be tabled. The Hon. Lekopien now he has no excuse to say that we are on recess. We are here to work and we shall continue to work. Therefore, all the businesses as the Majority Leader has just said, we are ready and we have the energy. So, I support that we continue the business. Thank you.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand to support the motion and I also stand to support the serious Members who are in serious business in this House, and especially Hon. Shuel and Hon. Kagondu, who for the first time I've heard and I've seen them and I've seen their faces being so serious in what they mean. I hope as we go for the next one week or the next two weeks, we will be doing serious businesses. On that day, let's be serious as Members of this House because I have realized that we have done so many recesses.

Speaker: Hold on Hon. Lekopien. What is it, Hon. Shuel?

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Hon. Paul Leshuel: Hon. Speaker, is the Member in order to tell the House that we have never been serious when we are representing people who are very happy on the job that we are doing? Can he confirm that we are not serious?

Speaker: The Hon. Kaniaru, what is it?

Hon. Denis Kaniaru: Mr. Speaker, I would like the Hon. Member to tell us who is Hon. Kagondu because I don't know any Member by the name Hon. Kagondu here in this House.

Speaker: Thank you. I think Hon Lekopien will be able to respond. Kindly, you may proceed.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Well, thank you, Hon. Speaker. I just need your protection, because it's not the first time I've heard the name Hon. Kagondu. But for the record, I will apologize and say Hon. Stephen Kagondu from Thingithu. It is Hon. Stephen Kamau Ndiritu. That is what I mean, Hon. Speaker. And his nick name is….

Speaker: Proceed Hon. Member. Those are his correct names.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you. I just need to get some protection because Hon. Stephen…

Speaker: Let him say a word. Hon. Stephen, just hold on. Let him say a word. I'll give you to respond.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Hon. Speaker, I think the House is starting to be a joke because Hon. Stephen Kamau Nderitu, just from the nickname I said Kagondu, he seems now to make fun of it.

Hon. Speaker, as we're trying to get to alter the calendar, I want to urge the House and the Members here to please let us be serious on the next one or two weeks because as you just said, we need to do serious businesses. If we mean it, let's do it. I hope it is not a joke that we say we alter the calendar and the next one week we will not have quorum even to do the necessary that we are supposed to do.

So, I to support and Hon. Kamau, if Kagondu is the wrong name I apologize. Hon. Kaniaru, wherever you have taken it, it is not what I meant and everyone knows the name. And for my learned friend, Hon. Shuel, I wish him well as he aspires in the next general election for the MP Laikipia North or the Governor Laikipia County. Thank you.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wanted to give clarity to this House that Kagondu is my official name. It has been gazetted and therefore Kagondu is my official name from last year. So, there is no offence by calling me Kagondu. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, for that information. You may need to supply us sometime with the confirmation of the same so that we can officially ensure that we use your official names.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I can even produce my national I.D here. I am the one who is saying it is official and therefore you should not doubt it. If you only give me five minutes, I will come here and give the proper documents like the motion we had to have a county gazette. For this country we have the Kenya gazette. My name was gazetted and now it is my official name. If you want any information, I will give of you a minute.

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Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen. Is there any other Member who would like to make contribution? Looking at the mood of the House, allow me to call upon the mover of the motion to make a reply.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I do appreciate the Members who have contributed towards this motion on alteration of the calendar because there are pending businesses in this House. As the Chair CPAIC has said, we have to be serious on matters pertaining to this Assembly and the business of the Assembly. It is not like the Members have not been serious but there are nitty gritties that we need to polish up as an Assembly on those reports so that we can table them and conduct business of this House as they should be.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this this House now stand adjourned until next week on Tuesday, 13th October, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

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