



NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT – FIRST SESSION – FIRST MEETING

MINUTES

No. 1

Wednesday 15 May 2019

NP/05/1/11

The Speaker took the Chair at 10:17 a.m.

Prayers were said by the Clerk.

The following Members were:

Present: Hon. Peter Shanel Agovaka
Hon. Chachabule Rebi Amoi
Hon. Ishmael Mali Avui
Hon. Heinz Horst Bodo Dettke
Hon. Douglas Ete
Hon. Titus Mokofi Fika
Hon. Levi Senley Filualea
Hon. Jackson Fiulaua
Hon. John Moffat Fugui
Hon. Robertson E. Galokale
Hon. Nestor Giro
Hon. Rick Nelson Houenipwela
Hon. Sam Shemuel Iduri
Hon. Dr Tautai Agikimua Kaituu
Hon. Martin Mokolo Kealoe
Hon. Peter Kenilorea Jnr.
Hon. Frederick Kologeto
Hon. Duddley Kopu
Hon. John Deane Kuku
Hon. Harry Kuma
Hon. Christopher Laore
Hon. Charles Jordan Maefai
Hon. Manasseh Maelanga

Hon. Augustine Auga Maeue
Hon. Samson Maneka
Hon. Jeremiah Manele
Hon. John Maneniaru
Hon. Samuel Manetoali
Hon. Derick Rawcliff Manu'ari
Hon. William Bradford Marau
Hon. Commins Aston Mewa
Hon. Dickson Panakitasi Mua
Hon. Danny Philip
Hon. Rexon Annex Ramofafia
Hon. Clezy C. Rore
Hon. Rollen Seleso
Hon. Charles Sigoto
Hon. Stanley Festus Sofu
Hon. Manasseh Damukana Sogavare
Hon. Freda A.B. Tuki Soriacomua
Hon. Makario Tagini
Hon. Lanelle Olandrea Tanangada
Hon. Silas Kerry Vaqara Tausinga
Hon. Bradley Tovosia
Hon. Namson Tran
Hon. Anthony Kamutulaka Veke
Hon. Jaimie Vokia
Hon. Matthew Cooper Wale

Absent: Hon. Bartholomew Parapolo
Hon. Dr Culwick Togamana

In attendance: Mr John Muria, *Attorney General*

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS

The Speaker congratulated the members of the 11th Parliament and welcomed them to the first sitting. Before calling on the Clerk to administer the Oath of Allegiance, the Speaker briefly made a statement regarding the process and purpose of making an Oath.

The Clerk then announced that he had received notification from the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission, pursuant to Section 107 (1) (a) of the Electoral Act 2018 advising of the names of the persons duly elected at the last general elections held on 3 April 2019. This notice was also published in the Solomon Islands Gazette as Gazette Notice No.57 of 2019.

By virtue of Standing Order 2 (2), the Clerk administered the oath of allegiance in accordance with section 63 and Schedule 1 of the *Constitution*.

48 members of Parliament took their oath.

READING BY THE SPEAKER OF MESSAGES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker informed the House that Mr David Kusilifu had been newly appointed as Clerk to Parliament.

He then went on to make a few remarks regarding the roles of members of Parliament and encouraged them to always bear in mind their primary constitutional functions as parliamentarians.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND OF REPORTS

Mr David Kusilifu, Clerk to National Parliament presented the following papers:

Publication of 2019 National General Election Results.

(National Parliament Paper No.4 of 2019).

Gazette – Proclamation of the First Session of the Eleventh Parliament.

(National Parliament Paper No.5 of 2019).

ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENT

The Clerk declared that on the closure of nominations for the Office of Speaker at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday 14 May 2019, the following persons were nominated as candidates for the position of the Speaker of National Parliament:

- Mr Patteson J. Oti, a former member of Parliament and the former Solomon Islands High Commissioner to the Fiji Mission and;
- Mr. Ajilon Jasper Nasiu, former Premier and Speaker of the Rennell and Bellona Provincial Assembly, and former Speaker to the National Parliament;

The Clerk presided over the election and announced the results as follows:

Mr Patteson J. Oti	-	30
Mr Ajilon Jasper Nasiu	-	15
Spoilt ballots	-	<u>3</u>
Total	-	<u>48</u>

The Clerk announced that the candidate duly elected by Members of Parliament as the Speaker of the National Parliament of Solomon Islands with a majority of 15 votes is Mr Patteson J. Oti.

The Speaker congratulated Mr Patteson J. Oti on his being elected as the next Speaker of the honourable House.

Parliament suspended at 12:08 p.m. for 30 minutes.

Parliament resumed at 12:45 p.m.

The newly elected Speaker, Mr Patteson J. Oti made his appreciation remarks.

ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY SPEAKER OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENT

The Clerk announced that on the closure of nominations for the Office of Deputy Speaker at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday 14 May 2019, only one nomination was received. The candidate was Hon. Stanley Festus Sofu. The Clerk then declared that Hon. Stanley Festus Sofu was duly elected unopposed as the Deputy Speaker of the 11th Parliament.

The Speaker on behalf of the House and its Members, congratulated and welcomed the new Deputy Speaker of the honourable House.

STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS for the week ending Friday 17 May 2019 was announced by the Prime Minister.

MOTION

Motion of Special Adjournment

Hon. Manasseh Sogavare, Prime Minister moved:

“That at its adjournment on Wednesday 15th May 2019, Parliament shall be adjourned to Tuesday 4th June 2019.”

The Prime Minister made his remarks.

Debate ensued and the following members contributed:

The Speaker made a ruling that although he understood that the Member of Parliament for Aoke/Langalanga was the intended candidate for the Office of the Leader of the Opposition, he had not yet received any validation from the Governor General and as such will not refer to him as Leader but only as a member of his respective constituency.

Hon. Matthew Wale	- MP for Aoke/Langalanga
Hon. Peter Shanel Agovaka	- Minister for Communication and Aviation & MP for Central Guadalcanal
Hon. Jeremiah Manele	- Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade & MP for Hograno/Kia/Havulei
Hon. Robertson Galokale	- Leader of the Independent Group & MP for South Choiseul
Hon. Stanley Festus Sofu	- Deputy Speaker & MP for East Kwaio
Hon. Danny Philip	- MP for South New Georgia/Rendova/Tetepare
Hon. Manasseh Maelanga	- Minister for Infrastructure Development & MP for East Malaita
Hon. Makario Tagini	- MP for Baegu/Asifola
Hon. Clezy Rore	- Minister for Commerce, Industries, Labour and Immigration & MP for North Vella La Vella
Hon. Titus Mokofi Fika	- MP for West Kwaio

Question put and passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The Prime Minister moved:

"That Parliament do now adjourn."

Question put and passed.

Parliament adjourned at 2:00 p.m. until 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday 4 June 2019.

Confirmed

Mr Ajilon Jasper Nasiu
Out-going Speaker of National Parliament

Confirmed

Mr Pattleson John Oti
Speaker of National Parliament

15 May 2019