

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

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THURSDAY, 14 MAY 2020

1. The House met at 14:15.
2. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.
3. [14:17] The Deputy Speaker requested the Hon Members to join her in conveying their deepest and heartfelt condolences to the families, loved ones and friends of all those people who have succumbed to the COVID-19 pandemic. She said that they would be remembered in their prayers and that she wished them strength during their time of bereavement. She added that she was confident that she had the unanimous support of all the Hon Members in this regard.
4. [14:19] The Deputy Speaker made a general announcement regarding the sitting of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament in accordance with Rule 1A of the Standing Rules pertaining to Members in remote attendance by electronic means.
5. [14:22] Interpellations.
6. [14:58] Questions.
7. [15:37] Statements by Members.
8. [16:00] Motions with Notice
9. [16:11] Mr R I Allen moved without notice: That the House notes with sadness the passing away of Lungile Tom, an eNCA cameraman, due to COVID-19; notes further that he was no stranger to the Western Cape Government; and extends our sincere condolences to his family, and assures his family and colleagues that our thoughts and prayers are with them during this time.

Agreed to.

10. Ms W Philander moved without notice: That the House notes with sadness the passing away of Ntombizakithi Ngidi, the second Western Cape nurse to die due to COVID-19; notes further that her service to the people in the province, especially during this unprecedented time, is highly esteemed; and extends our sincere condolences to her family, and assures her family and colleagues that our thoughts and prayers are with them during this time.

Agreed to.

11. Mr P J Marais moved without notice: That the House as a matter of extreme urgency requests a relaxation of the regulations, announced by the President, to allowing small, medium and micro-sized business enterprises (SMMEs) in the Western Cape to operate, albeit under strict health precautionary measures as they apply to other essential service providers; notes that such a relaxation of the regulation is necessary to prevent the complete financial collapse of SMMEs and to prevent the loss of thousands of jobs and job opportunities; and notes further that the inefficient and ineffective systems currently deployed by both SASSA and the UIF are cause for great concern as they cause distress and hardship for the poor and jobless masses.

Agreed to.

12. Ms W F Philander moved without notice: That the House notes the observation of International Nurses' Day on 12 May 2020 during this unprecedented time; commends nurses for the heroic work they performed in the fight against COVID-19; extends a heartfelt thank you to them for their courageous and dedicated service to communities every day because registered nurses pledge to serve humanity with conscience, dignity and first consideration to their patients; and notes this truly noble occupation.

Agreed to.

13. Ms R Windvogel moved without notice: That the House congratulates Dr Tasnim Suliman, researcher at the University of the Western Cape (UWC), who was the first person in South Africa to isolate the virus causing COVID-19; notes that this will aid local research about the coronavirus pandemic; and commends the collaboration between the UWC and the University of Stellenbosch in the laboratory battle against the virus.

Agreed to.

14. Ms M M Wenger moved without notice: That the House commends the Care Company, which is partnering with local churches and leaders in Masiphumelele and Ocean View, for feeding the most needy in these communities.

Agreed to.

15. Ms R Windvogel moved without notice: That the House welcomes the announcement made by Zweli Mkhize, national Minister of Health, that even more trained professionals of the Cuban medical brigade, who recently arrived in South Africa, will be deployed at hotspots in the Western Cape where the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread rampantly in order to strengthen the fight against the disease.

Agreed to

16. Ms M M Wenger moved without notice: That the House commends the work done by the Blockhouse Kitchen & Jonkershuis Eatery Feeding Scheme; and notes that their trained chefs are cooking nutritious meals for bulk distribution to feeding schemes that care for those who are hungry in the Deep South.

Agreed to.

17. Mr K Sayed moved without notice: That the House notes that a prominent South African doctor – Dr Clarence Mini, chairperson of the Council for Medical Schemes – died Monday night due to COVID-19 after being hospitalised for a month since he tested positive; notes further that Dr Mini was hailed as a leading figure in the transformation of the South African healthcare service; and sends our condolences to his family and friends.

Agreed to.

18. Ms M M Wenger moved without notice: That the House commends the work done by Food Angels – a group of like-minded women who came together to provide basics dry foods and fresh food for those in need and who rallied the goodwill of the community; and notes that the Food Angels are now providing hundreds of meals and packs of food to the needy in Westlake.

Agreed to.

19. Ms R Windvogel moved without notice: That the House notes that International Nurse Day was commemorated on Tuesday; and thanks all the nurses and caregivers who are looking after the sick and the frail.

Agreed to.

20. Mr D G Mitchell moved without notice: That the House notes and gives thanks to the WCPP's procedural officers and IT support staff for their ongoing efforts to enable us to deliver a virtual, functional, and public parliament during this crucial time in history; extends gratitude to our colleagues who work patiently to make sure we are digitally connected; thanks the WCPP personnel for their commitment during these unprecedented and challenging times; and notes that, through innovation and creativity to match the environment in which we find ourselves, the WCPP can stand proud as the only fully functional provincial legislature in the country with an open, digital operation.

Agreed to.

21. Ms N D Nkondlo moved without notice: That the House calls on this provincial government to further adjust its budget urgently for the new financial year in this extraordinary COVID-19 period and to oversee that local governments do the same in order to aid vulnerable residents.

Agreed to

22. Ms P Z Lekker moved without notice: That the House congratulates Ms Nora de Kock from Kuils River who turned 110 years on Tuesday, one of the Western Cape's oldest residents who, according to her ID, was born on 12 May 1910; and notes that she worked most of her life on farms, that she is still walking strong and upright, and that she is an active Ward 11 member of the ANC. Happy birthday, Grandmother Nora! (Lekker verjaar, Ouma Nora!)

Agreed to.

23. Mr A P van der Westhuizen moved without notice: That the House notes with appreciation the contribution of the agricultural sector in the Western Cape in terms of food relief during the lockdown period; notes that farmers and farm workers have tirelessly worked to provide food for us, our communities and NGOs who extend their efforts towards those who desperately need relief at this time; and notes further that the Western Cape Department of Agriculture has supported efforts to maintain a safe working environment in this sector by providing personal protective equipment, including 35 000 cloth masks to date.

Agreed to.

24. [16:32] Questions to the Premier without Notice.
25. The House adjourned at 16:52.

ROMEO ADAMS
Secretary to the Provincial
Parliament