

THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MERU



MERU MUNICIPALITY

**MAKUTANO TAXI AND MATATU OPERATORS
CITIZEN FORUM REPORT**

MINUTES OF MAKUTANO TAXI AND MATATU OPERATORS HELD AT MAKUTANO STAGE ON 4TH AUGUST 2023 AT 1:00 PM

Present: LIST ATTACHED

Agenda:

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Current regulatory updates
3. Conflict resolution mechanism
4. Road safety and compliance
5. Traffic rules enforcement
6. Technology integration
7. Any other business
8. Closing remarks

Meeting summary:

1. Welcome and introduction.

- The meeting commenced with a welcome address by Gitobu Nkanata, municipal manager at 1:00pm. He emphasized the importance of unity and cooperation between the two groups to improve transport services and address common challenges.

2. Current regulatory updates.

- Mr Eliud Murithi presented the latest updates on enactment of traffic regulation regulations.
- Key points discussed was Fare increase due to rising fuel cost and new taxes implemented through the finance act, 2023.

3. Conflict resolution mechanism.

- The need for a formal mechanism to resolve disputes between makutano taxi and matatu operators. Conflicts regarding the use of parking spaces by both taxis and matatus were discussed.
- A conflict resolution panel was established, comprising three members from each association. This panel will meet monthly to address any disputes and propose solutions.
- A proposal will be presented to the city council to clearly demarcate parking zones for taxis and matatus. A joint committee will meet with city official on a proposed date to discuss this proposal.

4. Road safety and compliance.

- Antony Muriira raised concerns about the increasing number of accidents involving taxis and matatus, largely due to non-compliance with traffic rules.
- Both groups agreed to hold joint road safety seminars every quarter. A committee was formed to liaise with traffic authorities and organize the first seminar on 10th September.

5.

6. Traffic Rules Enforcement.

- Members discussed issues related to adherence of traffic rules. It was noted that some taxis don't have seat belts while others were really over speeding.
- It was resolved that both associations would support strict enforcement of traffic laws. A mutual agreement was made to report and discipline members who bend traffic rules including suspension of licenses.

7. Technology Integration

- Josephine Kendi presented an overview of new technologies such as;
 - I. Fleet management systems-GPS tracking and telematics.
 - II. Cashless payment systems-reintroduction of cashless payments
 - III. Digital platforms for ride-hailing-ride-hailing apps such as uber and bolts and local innovations.
 - IV. Safety enhancements –dash cams and surveillance and emergency response systems.
 - V. Online booking and customer service-web and mobile apps and customer feedback.

8. Any other business

- Members suggested establishment of a joint welfare fund to support operators in times of need.
- Both associations agreed to collaborate on public relations campaign to improve image of public transport operators.
- Members agreed on strict emission control standards and regular inspection to ensure that vehicles meet environmental regulations.

9. Closing remarks

- Chairperson thanked all attendees for their participation and contributions.
- The date and time for the next meeting will be communicated to all members.

Adjournment

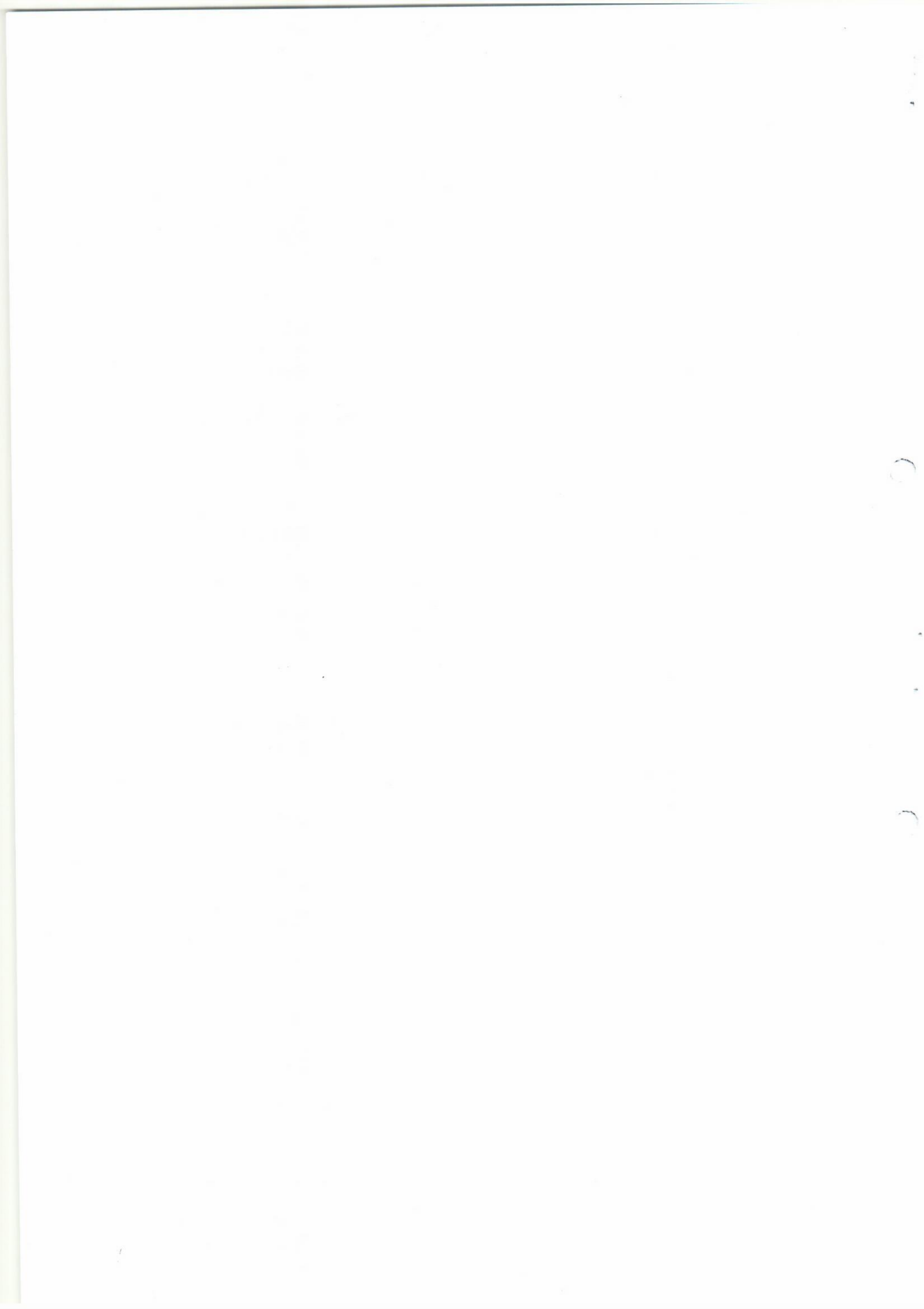
The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm with a word of prayer from Lewis Aritho.

Confirmed by:

Sign:

Seconded by:

Sign:



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GITIMBINE HAWKERS PUBLIC FORUM

Meeting Report: Gitimbine Hawkers Public Forum

Date: 15th Dec 2023

Venue: Gitimbine market

On December 15, 2023, Gitimbine hawkers held a significant public forum to discuss various issues affecting their trade and explore potential solutions. The meeting started with an opening speech from the chairperson of the Gitimbine Hawkers Association, who welcomed everyone. This meeting, attended by numerous local hawkers, community leaders, and the municipal manager, was pivotal in addressing the challenges faced by hawkers in the area. The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss the challenges hawkers faced and to come up with possible solutions to address them.

During the forum, Linda Kanana highlighted several pressing issues, including the need for better trading spaces, security concerns, and the impact of increased competition from larger retail establishments and informal vendors, who do not abide by the laws. She emphasized the necessity for local government support in securing designated areas for their activities to prevent harassment and displacement.

Kairithi Dorris complained about constant harassment from the city council officers who confiscated their goods and demanded bribes. This has negatively impacted their businesses and livelihoods.

Festus Baariu talked about the lack of proper infrastructure in the market such as inadequate stalls and sanitation facilities. They highlighted the need for better facilities to improve their working conditions.

Key discussions focused on innovation and inclusion within the hawking community. Pastor Jonathan Gikundi proposed the introduction of digital tools to streamline business operations, such as mobile payment systems and online marketing strategies, which could enhance their competitiveness and customer reach. The forum also addressed the importance of creating a more inclusive environment for all hawkers, regardless of gender or background, ensuring equal opportunities for growth and development.

Additionally, Samson Ngugi discussed the potential for forming cooperatives to strengthen their bargaining power and improve access to financial resources. Cooperative models could provide better negotiation capabilities with suppliers, access to micro-loans, and shared resources for business development.

Mary Muthoni proposed an improvement of market infrastructure and sanitation facilities, which will be presented to relevant authorities and George Mbugua suggested on the enforcement of regulations within the market to address the issue of unfair competition from informal vendors.

The municipal manager, Gitobu Nkanata present at the meeting assured the hawkers of their commitment to addressing these concerns. He proposed the formation of a joint task force to develop actionable plans and collaborate on solutions that would benefit the hawking community.

Overall, the forum was a productive platform for dialogue, with a clear focus on empowering the hawkers through innovation, inclusion, and cooperative efforts. The outcomes of this meeting are expected to lead to tangible improvements in the working conditions and economic stability of Gitimbine hawkers.

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GAKOROMONE OPEN AIR MARKET PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

A REPORT OF A MEETING HELD ON 24TH FEBRUARY AT GAKOROMONE ON GAKOROMONE OPEN AIR MARKET PUBLIC FORUM AT 10.30 AM

MEMBERS

SEE ATTACHED

Agenda:

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Reading and confirmation of previous minutes
3. Market operation review
4. Vender feedback session
5. Community engagement strategies
6. Infrastructure and amenities
7. Any Other Business

MIN 3.1: Welcome and Introduction

The meeting commenced with a word of prayer from Doris Karwitha. The chairperson, Mr. David Mutungi welcomed all the members into the meeting and expressed appreciation for the commitment of the committee members in matters time keeping and honoring the meeting.

MIN 3.2: Reading and Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The secretary, Rose Kaari read the minutes of the previous meeting and was confirmed to be true by Henry Kobia and seconded by Ruth Ghoheri Muriuki.

MIN 3.3: Market Operation Review

Henry Kobia gave an overview of the current construction of the vendor set up amenities.

Three members agreed to join association Make Gakoromone Clean and Safe to spearhead it' objectives.

MIN 3.4: Vendor Feedback Session

Evelyne Kagwiria reported that members we complain on matters overcrowding during market days and a suggestion of construction of pathways and vender set ups to be completed om time.

Makena Walker suggested on the installation of two security lights at the far ends of the Gakoromone Municipality to curb the complaints of increased on insecurity in the area at night.

Due to the outbreak of waterborne diseases e.g., cholera and typhoid, Emma Kirigia suggested proper drainage systems to be installed and also plenty clean water to be provided by MEWASCO

MIN 3.5: Community Engagement Strategies

Two committee members, Isaack Nkitute and Doris Karwitha volunteered to lead the seminars and creating awareness about small scale business operations available in Gakoromone.

The members also agreed that they will form a Sacco that will enable all the vendors to save and easily acquire loans to help facilitate their businesses.

The committee also gave their recommendations concerning a suggestion made in the previous meeting, **min 2.6**, about setting up of a workshop and a technical training center at Gakoromone and they suggested that in acquisition of funds, the project should commence with immediate effect.

MIN 3.6: Infrastructure and Amenities

Doris Karwitha suggested that the market should be facilitated with adequate facilities and amenities like restrooms, sitting areas, parking, and trash disposal, for vendors and visitors.

She also gave an overview of improving infrastructure hence enhancing the overall experience and attractiveness of the market.

Julia Kinanu gave an overview of the construction of the current road connecting Gakoromone market and noted that there have been significant improvements from last meeting complains. She further noted that contractor had paid the workers on time and the community psyche and attitude towards the completion of the construction was positive.

MIN 3.7: Any Other Business

The manager of Meru Municipality, Dr. Gitobu Nkamata promised to push in ensuring that the County Municipality will ensure that the town is clean and that proper disposal has been adhered to.

Makena walker suggested that they should come up with a special committee to inspect the progress in the construction of social amenities in Gakoromone

Grace Kaloki criticized the current road constructor, that despite the fact that he was paying the workers on time, he was still oppressing and overworking them.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no any other business, the chairman, David Mutungi announced that the next meeting will be on 27th July 2024 and he welcomed Julia Kinanu to close with a word of prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Confirmed by:

Sign:

Seconded By:

Sign:

OF KWA MUKIRA BOVA BUKA HELD AT KANU GROUNDS AT 11:00 AM ON AUGUST 20, 2024

MEETING AGENDA

1. Preliminaries
2. Confirmation of the previous meeting
3. Savings
4. Security
5. Construction of shade.
6. Sanitation

min 1/2024 Preliminaries

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer led by Godfrey Mutema. He further forwarded the meeting progress to the Chairman.

min 2/2024 / Confirmation of the previous meeting.

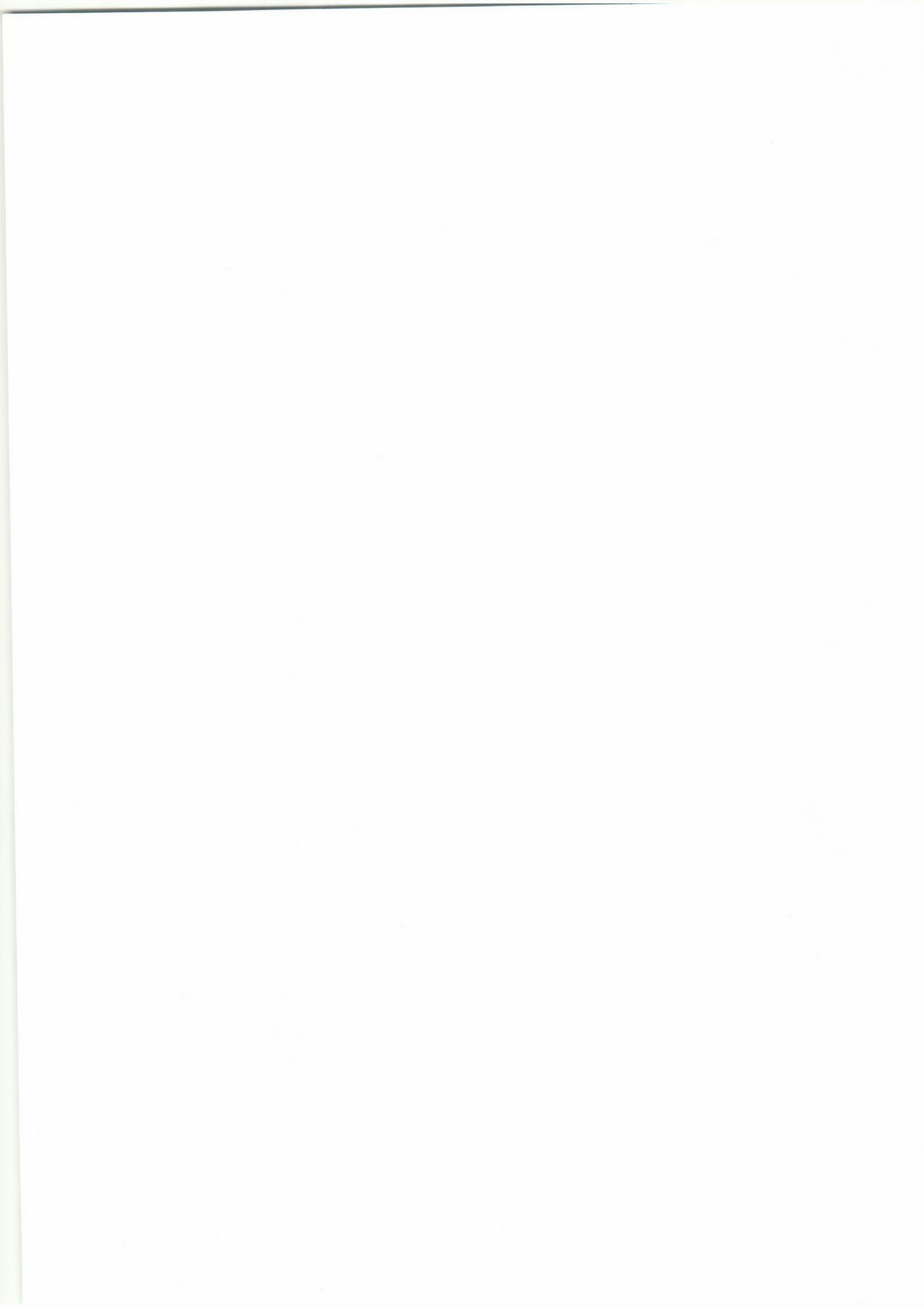
The secretary read the previous meeting which was confirmed by Evans Muriuki and John Karara as true record of the previous meeting.

min 3/2024 Savings

Brian Kimathi (treasurer) brought the evidence and details of the record of the savings of the sacco. The members agreed to continue saving to meet our set record. Everybody was happy with the way financial issues of our sacco was being handled. Samson Mwendu a member expressed his faith and gratitude toward the work of the signatories of the sacco.

min 4/2024 Security

Members agreed to report any boda boda rider who will come to our stage without the members knowledge. Members said the security of our customers is the most



Min 6/2024 Construction of shade.

It was discussed that due to the stream weather condition in our lovely county, there is a need for the construction of shade. It was agreed that there is need to request our County Government of Meru through all bodies concerned to help in the construction of shade. Members agreed that this minute will act as a proposal to consider kwa MUKIRA Boda Boda in the construction of shade.

Kindly consider our humble request. Thank you in advance.

Min 6/2024 Sanitation

Members agreed to request county government to assist in the maintenance of our stage hygiene. Therefore member agreed to request county government of Meru to assist us with a dust bin. Through this we will be able to address the cleanliness of our stage to motivate our work and ourselves.

A.O.B

There being no other business the meeting was ended by a word of prayer led by John Ongeri. The Chairman announced that on 3rd September 2024 there will be the next meeting.

E.C County Boda Boda Chairman: John Baraza

Chairman: John Baraza

Secretary: Godfrey Mutumy

sign

sign

