

**BOBIRWA SUB DISTRICT COUNCIL**



**WELCOME REMARKS**

**BY THE**

**SUB COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON**

**OF**

**BOBIRWA SUB DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**HON. CLLR. GORATAMANG MASWEU**

**TO THE SUB COUNCIL SITTING OF 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY –**

**2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2018**

**IN THE**

**RAC CONFERENCE ROOM**

**AT 0900 HRS**

**WELCOME REMARKS BY THE SUB COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON OF BOBIRWA  
SUB DISTRICT COUNCIL HON. CLLR. GORATAMANG MASWEU,  
DELIVERED IN THE COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup>  
FEBRUARY 2018 AT 0900 HOURS**

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Member of Ntlo ya Dikgosi

Dikgosi herein present

Honourable Sub Council Deputy Chairperson

Distinguished Sub Council Committee Chairpersons

Honourable Councillors

The Deputy District Commissioner

The Senior Assistant Council Secretary and Your Deputy

Sub Land Board Chairpersons

Sub Land Board Secretaries

Deputy Tribal Secretary

Members of staff from both Local and Central Government here present

Media Houses here present

Members of the public, and

Dear guests not mentioned herein.

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1. I greet you all this morning and welcome you to the first Sub Council sitting of the year 2018, which is also the last sitting of the 2017/2018 financial year.
  
2. **BAGAETSHO**, it is befitting to begin my address by paying tribute to His Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana, Lt Gen Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama as his term of office will be coming to an end in March 2018. I would like to take this time to reflect on some of the achievements under his stewardship. I take this time to thank His Excellency for having been a good father figure to all of us Batswana. Through his visionary leadership we were able to cushion our country against the aftermath of the global economic meltdown of 2008, save jobs for both public service and private sector employees and continued to provide basic services and infrastructure to all Batswana. I really appreciate the contributions he made for development of our country and wish him well in his future endeavours. I also believe that His Honour, the Vice President Mr. Mokgweetsi Masisi will also follow suit and continue where his predecessor left when he assume office in April 2018.
  
3. This session, Honourable House, presents yet another opportunity for us to introspect on our progress as a Sub District with a vision of improving service delivery to our clientele. We have to reflect on our achievements

and failures thus far, so as to make adjustments to meet the expectation of our people hence the need to update you on our progress.

#### COUNCIL FINANCIAL POSITION

4. Ladies and Gentlemen, the 2017/2018 financial year was a year of learning and growth as our Sub District continued to seek answers to tight budget constraints. We had to use the scarce resources at our disposal to maximize service delivery, and the same is expected in the coming 2018/2019 fiscal year. Let me hasten to say that I believe so strongly in our Sub District and I am confident that our vision for a greater Sub District can be achieved in light of the many pressures before us.

#### ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAMME

##### ESP PHASE II & III

5. Our Sub District continues to benefit from this programme as evidenced by a number of on-going projects. The primary school backlog eradication programme (ESP II) is on-going at Tshokwe Primary School (construction of 8No. single teachers' houses, 2No. double classroom block and 8No. cubicle toilets). The packages have been awarded at an amount of Fourteen Million Five Hundred and Twenty Two Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Six Pula Eighty Thebe (P14, 522, 636.80). It is my sincere belief that once completed, the facilities will go a long way in

addressing acute shortage of classroom and teacher accommodation at the institution.

6. To that note, allow me to update this House on ESP III, we have submitted a Project Memorandum requesting for funds amounting to Twenty-Two Million Five Hundred and Twenty Thousand and Four Hundred Pula only (P22, 520,400.00) to our parent ministry for construction of primary schools Facilities Backlog Eradication projects through the Economic Stimulus Programme III (ESP) in the 2018-2019 financial year. The scopes for the projects are as follows;

- (i) Construction of 1No Three Classroom Block, 1No. 8 Cubicle Toilet Block and 3 single teachers' houses at Tobane Primary School
- (ii) Agosi Primary School projects entails construction of 1No. Double-classroom block, 1No.8 cubicle toilets and 1No. Teachers' houses
- (iii) Sedibe Primary School entails construction of 1No. Double-classroom Block and 2No. Teachers' house
- (iv) Semolale Primary School entails construction of 1No. Double-classroom and 1No. 8 Cubicle Toilet Block
- (v) Saint Peter's Primary School entails construction of 1No. 8 cubicle toilet block and 1No. Teachers' house

- (vi) Letsibogo Primary School entails construction of 1No. Teachers' house
- (vii) Lepokole Primary School entails construction of 1No. 8 cubicle toilets
- (viii) Bobonong Primary School entails construction of 1No. Teacher's house

7. Still under the ESP, our Sub District has also been allocated an amount of Ten Million Five Hundred Thousand Pula (10,500,000.00) for primary school maintenance under the ESP. These funds will be used to carryout maintenance works in our primary schools to address dilapidated infrastructure in the schools. This will go a long way in ensuring that our facilities remain in a habitable state for use by both pupils and teachers. The following primary schools will be maintained through the disbursed funds; Mafetsakgang, Phethu Mphoeng, Tlapalakoma, Madikwe, Kelele, Rasetimela, Modisaotsile and Letsibogo Primary Schools.

#### CONSTITUENCY COMMUNITY PROJECTS

8. BAGAETSHO, Bobirwa Sub District is implementing a total of seventy one projects under the programme. The projects are progressing well and are at various stages of construction and I believe that they will be completed before the end of the financial year. All the projects were

reserved to companies and individuals domiciled within the Bobirwa Sub District, hence local economic empowerment.

9. The Government will continue financing the programme in the coming 2018/2019 financial year and consultations with all the relevant stakeholders have been done accordingly. I am content that there will be smooth implementation of the projects in the 2018/2019 financial year as some of the implementation issues have been ironed out.

## ROAD MAINTENANCE

### **i. In-House Road Works**

10. ***Bagaetsho***, I have stated in the previous sessions that the Bobonong Village Infrastructure project had its shortcomings as it did not cater for crossover slabs for easier crossing by road users. I am happy to announce that my Council will construct 7 crossover slabs and 8 footbridges for easier movement of our parents and children before the end of this financial year. The projects have been distributed as follows; 3 crossover slabs and 3 footbridges at Dandane, 1 crossover slab and 2 footbridges and Rasetimela and lastly 3 crossover slabs and 3 footbridges at Mabumahibidu-Borotsi.
  
11. The Roads division is also engaged in installation of speed humps in strategic areas in Bobonong village to allow for easier crossing by

pedestrians and to control over speeding. I have been informed that installation of the same will be rolled out to Mmadinare village and other villages in our Sub District after completion in Bobonong. Another on-going road works project is the construction of two (2) bus bays at Mathathane village. I am reliably informed that the project will be completed before the end of February 2018.

### **ii. Fuel Levy Projects**

12. An amount of Two Million Pula (P2, 000, 000.00) has been disbursed to our Sub District under Fuel Levy funding. The funds have been channelled to Mmadinare for re-gravelling of 16km of internal roads at the village. This will improve the status of roads as well as the appearance of the village. May I caution all stakeholders to exercise patience during the construction phase as some of the activities will be affected by the project. This includes amongst others, traffic movement, environmental and noise pollution to be caused by heavy machinery.

### **iii. Upgrading of Linking Roads**

13. I am pleased to inform this House that the Tsetsebye Moletemane Junction – Moletemane village linking road will be upgraded through use of block paving (interlocking bricks). The procurement process for the project started on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and updates regarding the project will be availed in due course. Another project worth mentioning is



the proposal to upgrade certain portions of the Mmadinare – Robelela gravel road to bitumen standard. The project is still at costing stage.

14. I am content that these projects will go a long way in addressing concerns that have been raised by the Honourable Councillors and our communities through the Sub Council sessions and Kgotla meetings addressed by our Honourable Members of Parliament. Also note that a well-developed and maintained road network can contribute positively to efficiency and effectiveness in delivery of Government programmes and services.

#### RADP AND DESTITUTE HOUSING

15. Ladies and Gentlemen, our Government continues to prioritize on provision of decent shelter to the less privileged section of the society. Availability of shelter is considered a basic need and goes a long way in building an inclusive society as it provides the marginalised with an opportunity to live a dignified life. To that effect, Government will continue funding programmes such as SHHA, Public Officers Housing Initiative (POHI), RADP and Destitute Housing in the coming financial year.

16. I am happy to announce that our Sub District has been allocated 19No. of houses under the RADP Housing to be constructed in our four

RADP settlements as follows; Robelela (5), Tshokwe (5), Damochujenaa (5) and Lepokole (4). Beneficiaries for the projects have been identified and the Community Development division has facilitated for acquisition of plots for individuals who did not have plots. The Architecture and Buildings division has also finalised the procurement process for construction of the houses and a direct procurement method has been approved for the engagement of contractors. My Council has adopted a direct procurement method that targets empowerment and development of local builders in construction management through use of the turnkey/ lump sum contract for the projects. We have also unbundled the projects into two contracts (house and pit latrine) and reserved all the projects to local citizen builders within area of existence.

17. We are yet to receive allocations for the 2018/2019 Destitute Houses and I believe that the same procurement method will be used in an endeavour to empower our local builders. I have to commend the Government for this noble gesture of providing accommodation to the less privileged members of the society.

#### CONSTITUENCY SPORTS TOURNAMENT

18. Bobirwa Sub District will host the regional constituency sports tournament from the 24 – 25 February 2018 in Bobonong village. The following constituencies of Selibe Phikwe East, Selibe Phikwe West,

Lerala/Maunatlala, Palapye, Mmadinare and Bobonong will partake in the sport competitions which comprises of football, netball and volleyball. Our Sub District will be represented by a total of eight (8) teams and it is my belief that we will triumph during the competitions. Hosting a tournament of such magnitude will also boost the economic activities in the village of Bobonong and as such, we have to encourage all business persons to take advantage of the market base and maximise profits during the event.

#### NATIONAL CULTURE DAY

19. Mmadinare village has been selected to host the 2018 National Culture Day Commemorations to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018. This year's commemorations will be held under the theme, **“CULTURE IS MY BUSINESS”**. This therefore calls for our concerted effort to kick-start preparations for the event for it to be a success.

#### INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

20. Following the ratification of the 2003 Convention in 2010, Districts and Sub Districts are required to form Intangible Cultural Heritage Committees, herein referred to as ICH committees. The committees will be responsible for promoting stakeholder participation, monitoring programmes and projects, promoting access to cultural activities with ideals of the convention and offering technical support in implementation

of the 2003 ICH Convention, all in an effort to safeguard intangible culture. The structure will comprise of Dikgosi, Arts and Culture practitioners and the Sub District leadership to mention but a few. In view of the foregoing, we are in the process of establishing a sub district structure which will spearhead the implementation of the 2003 ICH Convention and it is my expectation that all stakeholders will give the exercise their utmost support.

## EDUCATION

### **i. Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) Results**

21. Ladies and Gentleman, we continue to provide teaching and learning to students and this culminates with sitting for national examinations at both primary and secondary schools in the months of October and November every year. At primary level, PSLE results indicated that 13 out of our 31 schools managed to reach the national target of 76% ABC pass mark, whereas 9 beat the regional target of 80% ABC. We have to applaud Lentswe Le Moriti Primary for maintaining its excellent performance of 100%. Other schools that showed a notable improvement in their performance are Agosi, St. Peters, Moletemane, Tlapalakoma and Mabumahibidu as they have added a remarkable value when compared to the 2016 PSLE results.

ii. **Junior Certificate Examination (JCE) Results**

22. As for the JCE results, Merementsi Junior secondary scooped first position in the Sub Region with a performance of 50.8% against 44.8% in 2016. We have to note that 7 out of the 11 schools in our Sub Region (Bobirwa, Gobojango, Molalatau, Makome, Sefhophe, Merementsi, Tsetsebye) improved on their performance and added value thus making the sub -region to perform at 37.3% MABC pass from 29.3% in 2016, which is quite a commendable improvement.

23. I note with much appreciation that all these results were due to our continued collaboration with various stakeholders who actively participate in the pursuit of excellence in education. We managed to achieve all this despite the challenges we face on a daily basis such as shortage of textbooks, learner indiscipline and lack of parental support. In an endeavor to address these, we should ensure that strategies such as engagement of PTAs, intensification of guidance and counseling programmes, accounting for results by schools and rewarding for performance are put in place.

24. On a sad note, we continue to register high numbers of desertions and pregnancy cases. So far we have registered 45 desertions and 14 pregnancies. This on its own is a cause for concern and we have to come

together to address this issues. I also urge you to report perpetrators so that they are put to task to account for their evil deeds.

25. As I end my address, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all our stakeholders because it is through their collaboration and cooperation that we are able to execute our mandate as a sub district. We will forever remain indebted to your support in all our accomplishments.

26. Thank you for lending me a hearing ear and I wish you a productive session when advocating for the development of our Sub District. Thank You Ladies and Gentlemen.

NELWANG KE PULA BETSHO