

The Role of the Village Consultative Body in Village Governance in Mongolat Village, Telaga District, Gorontalo Regency

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine and obtain data regarding the implementation of the main tasks and functions of the Village Consultative Body in the administration of government, and obtain data on the factors that influence the implementation of the main tasks and functions of the Village Consultative Body in the administration of government in Mongolato Village, Telaga District, Gorontalo Regency. The research method uses data collection techniques through, observation, interviews, and documentation. The data obtained from the research results are processed using qualitative analysis to find out and obtain data regarding the implementation of the main tasks and functions of the Village Consultative Body in the administration of government and obtain data on what factors influence the implementation of the main tasks and functions of the Village Consultative Body in the administration of government. The results of this study indicate that the implementation of the main tasks of the BPD in the administration of government has not been fully carried out optimally because only three main tasks are carried out namely accommodating and channelling the aspirations of the community, forming a village head election committee and the process of discussion and stipulation of village regulations together with the village head, out of six the main tasks that have been determined by the Government Regulation on Villages. the factors that influence the implementation of the main tasks and supervisory functions are influenced by two factors, namely the driving factor which includes community support or participation, and a good cooperative relationship between the Village Consultative Body and the Village Government. Whereas the second factor is the inhibiting factor which includes the lack of benefits provided to the members involved, facilities and infrastructure, lack of Human Resources to fill membership and the existence of a society that is either pro or contra to each decision made.

Keywords: *consultation; village institutions; village government*

INTRODUCTION

The village constitutes a legal community unit with clearly defined territorial boundaries and the authority to regulate and manage governmental affairs, development, community empowerment, social guidance, as well as disaster management and emergency response. Within the governmental system of the Republic of Indonesia, the national territory is divided into large and small administrative regions, in which the village represents the lowest level of government. Village governance functions as an autonomous subsystem of public administration that is authorized to regulate and manage community interests in accordance

with social development and changes occurring within the local community (Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014; Widjaja, 2014).

Based on the framework of regional autonomy, rural areas remain a critical component that requires continuous development. Villages play a strategic role in the process of governmental administration and community development. Therefore, in order to ensure the effective implementation of village governance and development, institutional oversight is required. One of the key supervisory institutions at the village level is the Village Consultative Body (Badan Permusyawaratan Desa/BPD) (Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014; Solekhan, 2014). The existence of the BPD is intended to ensure that village government programs are implemented effectively through systematic oversight of village governance and development processes (Huda, 2015; Widjaja, 2014).

To strengthen the operational foundation of village governance, the government enacted Government Regulation Number 43 of 2014 concerning the Implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 on Villages. Furthermore, derivative regulations, including the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs Number 110 of 2016 on the Village Consultative Body, reinforce and clarify village authority as well as the institutional position of the BPD within the village governance structure.

The Village Consultative Body is an institution that performs governmental functions, whose members are representatives of the village population based on territorial representation and are determined through democratic processes. The selection of BPD members may be conducted through direct elections or representative deliberations, depending on the needs and agreements of the respective village communities. Functionally, the BPD serves as the village legislative body and as a forum for accommodating and channeling community aspirations. In carrying out village governance, the BPD holds an equal and cooperative position as a partner of the village government.

The BPD is authorized to discuss and formulate draft village regulations jointly with the village government, which are subsequently enacted as village regulations. In addition, the BPD exercises supervisory authority over the implementation of village regulations as well as the Village Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBDes).

According to the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs Number 110 of 2016, the BPD performs functions related to the enactment of village regulations together with the village head, the accommodation and articulation of community aspirations, and the supervision of village governance. Meanwhile, Law Number 6 of 2014 on Villages, particularly Article 55, explicitly stipulates that the BPD has three primary functions: (1) discussing and approving draft village regulations together with the village head; (2) accommodating and channeling the aspirations of the village community; and (3) supervising the performance of the village head. Members of the BPD may serve a maximum of three terms of office, whether consecutively or non-consecutively.

In relation to the execution of its duties and functions, the BPD constitutes a village governmental institution with a strategic role in the field of oversight. The village government, as the executive authority at the village level, plays an active role in policy formulation and the implementation of village development. Accordingly, the village government is required to establish constructive partnerships with the BPD, the private sector, and the village community.

In practice, however, despite the mandate provided by Law Number 6 of 2014 on Villages, the BPD has not fully carried out its duties and functions in an optimal manner. Strengthening the supervisory role of the BPD over the performance of the village head remains essential in order to minimize potential deviations in the administration of village governance. Therefore, effective oversight by the BPD is crucial to ensure the proper implementation of village governance in accordance with its mandated duties and supervisory functions

METHODS

The research approach plays a crucial role in determining the quality and direction of a study. This research employs a qualitative approach, as it is considered more adaptable to real conditions in the field due to its dynamic nature. Qualitative research is a method used to examine phenomena in their natural settings, where the researcher serves as the primary instrument of data collection. This approach aims to understand events and social phenomena from the participants' perspectives, with an emphasis on meaning rather than generalization.

Furthermore, this study adopts a descriptive research design, which constitutes one of the strategic approaches within qualitative research. The research strategy applied is a case study, in which the researcher conducts an in-depth and systematic investigation of a program, event, activity, process, or group of individuals. The case under study is bounded by specific time frames and activities, and data are collected comprehensively using multiple data collection procedures within a predetermined period. The objective of this research is to examine directly the role of the Village Consultative Body in the administration of village governance.

The data collected in this study are derived from research questions formulated in accordance with the identified problems and established research objectives, particularly those related to the implementation of the main duties and functions of the Village Consultative Body (BPD) and the factors influencing the execution of these duties and functions in village governance in Mongolato Village, Telaga District, Gorontalo Regency. The sources of data in this research are obtained through two main categories.

First, primary data are collected directly through interviews with selected informants, including the Chairperson of the Village Consultative Body, the Vice Chairperson, members of the Village Consultative Body, the Village Head, the Village Secretary, Hamlet Heads, and community leaders representing each hamlet. In addition, primary data are also obtained through direct observation of the research object in the field.

Second, secondary data are obtained from literature reviews, library research, and documentation related to the role of the Village Consultative Body in the administration of village governance in Mongolato Village, Telaga District, Gorontalo Regency.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Gorontalo Regency was established based on Law Number 29 of 1959 concerning the Establishment of Level II Regions in Sulawesi, with Isimu designated as its capital. In 1978, the capital of Gorontalo Regency was relocated to Limboto. Based on a traditional kinship agreement known as *u'dulowo lim lo pohalaa*, which involved the Kingdom of Gorontalo, the Kingdom of Limboto, the Kingdom of Suwawa, the Kingdom of Boalemo, and the Kingdom of Atinggola, the official founding date of Gorontalo Regency was determined to be November 26, 1673.

Gorontalo Regency covers an area of 1,750.83 km² and has the largest population in Gorontalo Province, amounting to 355,988 people or approximately 34.22% of the total provincial population. Following the establishment of Gorontalo Province as a result of regional expansion from North Sulawesi Province on December 22, 2000, Gorontalo Regency officially became part of Gorontalo Province. Furthermore, Gorontalo Regency has undergone three administrative expansions: the first in 1999, which resulted in the formation of Boalemo Regency; the second in 2003, which led to the establishment of Bone Bolango Regency; and the third in 2007, which resulted in the formation of North Gorontalo Regency.

Mongolato Village, also known as Mengolato, is administratively located in Telaga District, Gorontalo Regency, Gorontalo Province, Indonesia. Mongolato Village consists of four hamlets, namely Dahlia Hamlet, Motolohu Hamlet, Rumajaga Hamlet, and Ar-Ridwan

Hamlet. The total area of Mongolato Village is 91.06 hectares, comprising dry land and wetland areas, as well as land utilized for residential settlements and government office buildings.

The population of Mongolato Village amounts to 2,693 people, distributed across 747 households, consisting of 1,312 males and 1,381 females.

Organizational Structure of Mongolato Village Government

The organizational structure of the Mongolato Village Government is as follows:

1. Village Head: Yasir Hasania, S.H.
2. Village Secretary: Chintia A. Beu, S.Kom
3. Head of Government Affairs Section: Novi Rianti A. Badu, S.Hut
4. Head of Welfare Section: Yunan Usman
5. Head of Public Services Section: Erni Oponu
6. Head of General Affairs and Administration: Nasir Halim
7. Head of Financial Affairs: Sunarti Djihu, S.E.
8. Head of Planning Affairs: Ratni Ismail Anuingio

The hamlet heads in Mongolato Village are as follows:

1. Dahlia Hamlet: Erny Thamrin Muhi
2. Motolohu Hamlet: Hadijah Aziz Laganja
3. Rumajaga Hamlet: Fajar Ismail Usman
4. Data Tomelo Hamlet: Masmun Hasania

Implementation of the Main Duties and Supervisory Functions of the Village Consultative Body

Based on the findings of this study, the implementation of the main duties and supervisory functions of the Village Consultative Body (Badan Permusyawaratan Desa/BPD) in the administration of village governance in Mongolato Village includes several key aspects.

Accommodating and Channeling Community Aspirations

Interview results with Mr. Munir indicate that the BPD functions as a forum for accommodating community aspirations. These aspirations include various complaints, needs, and expectations of village residents, which are subsequently followed up and conveyed to relevant institutions or authorities. The accommodation of community aspirations is carried out through both written and oral mechanisms. Written aspirations generally relate to village development and progress and are further discussed through village regulations, while oral aspirations are conveyed directly by community members to the BPD.

Furthermore, Mr. Syaiful Naewo explained that once community aspirations are collected, the BPD channels them through deliberative meetings organized by the BPD. In this process, the village government is also given the opportunity to provide explanations or responses to the aspirations expressed by the community.

Formation of the Village Head Election Committee

Based on interviews with Mr. Munir, prior to the implementation of the village head election, the BPD first establishes a Village Head Election Committee. The committee members are drawn from elements of the village apparatus, community institutions, and local community leaders. This statement is reinforced by Mr. Suyuti, who emphasized that the BPD conducts internal deliberations to determine individuals deemed appropriate to serve as members of the election committee.

The duties of the Village Head Election Committee include:

- (a) Conducting all stages of the village head election process and reporting the results to the BPD;
- (b) Carrying out socialization activities regarding the village head election in each hamlet;
- (c) Conducting the screening and selection of prospective village head candidates in accordance with predetermined requirements; and
- (d) Publicly announcing the official village head candidates in locations that are easily accessible to the community.

Discussion and Enactment of Village Regulations

According to Mr. Tahir Tangahu, the process of drafting and enacting village regulations is conducted jointly by the BPD and the village government through several stages, including the submission of draft village regulations by the village government, the provision of input and recommendations by the BPD, hamlet heads, and community leaders, and deliberative meetings to reach mutual agreement.

Additionally, Mr. Hi. Taib Kilo stated that after undergoing discussion and revision, the draft village regulation is formally approved and enacted as a village regulation. In this process, the BPD plays a role in granting approval, while the village head holds the authority to officially enact the regulation.

Nevertheless, the findings of this study indicate that the implementation of the BPD's main duties has not been fully optimal, particularly in relation to its supervisory function.

Factors Influencing the Implementation of the Supervisory Duties and Functions of the Village Consultative Body in Mongolato Village, Telaga District, Gorontalo Regency

Based on the results of the research conducted in Mongolato Village, the implementation of the main duties and supervisory functions of the Village Consultative Body (Badan Permusyawaratan Desa/BPD) is influenced by several factors, which can be categorized into supporting factors and inhibiting factors (Santoso, 2003; Solekhan, 2014).

Supporting Factors

Community Support and Participation toward the Village Consultative Body

Based on an interview with Mr. Munir, the community is a determining factor in the success of the Village Consultative Body in carrying out its functions. The magnitude of support, positive response, and appreciation from the community toward the Village Consultative Body provides greater flexibility and space for the institution to effectively perform its duties.

Community support is reflected not only in the number of aspirations conveyed but also in community involvement in the implementation of Village Regulations (Perdes). The willingness and enthusiasm of the community play a crucial role in strengthening the supervisory function of the Village Consultative Body (Santoso, 2003; Yustika, 2015). Meanwhile, the salary or allowances received by members of the Village Consultative Body are sourced solely from village operational funds provided by the Village Government, and their disbursement is irregular on a monthly basis.

Facilities and Infrastructure

Based on an interview with Mr. Tahir Tangahu, adequate facilities and infrastructure are essential to support the performance of members of the Village Consultative Body. The absence of a dedicated office or workspace for the Village Consultative Body as an administrative center—similar to other legislative institutions—constitutes a significant factor affecting its performance. Operational facilities are also necessary to ensure the

smooth execution of supervisory duties. Although the Village Consultative Body operates at the village level, limitations in facilities and infrastructure remain influential.

Furthermore, an interview with Mr. Ha. Zenab Ibrahim revealed that facilities and infrastructure in Mongolato Village are still inadequate, particularly the absence of a dedicated office for the Village Consultative Body. Ideally, the Village Consultative Body should have its own office space and should not share facilities with the Village Head's office, given their partnership relationship. This condition potentially hampers the effective implementation of the supervisory duties and functions of the Village Consultative Body.

Limited Human Resources within the Village Consultative Body

Based on an interview with Ms. Ha. Dra. Sri Fatmawaty Koem, one of the inhibiting factors in the implementation of the supervisory duties and functions of the Village Consultative Body in Mongolato Village is the limited quality and capacity of human resources. Some members still possess relatively low educational backgrounds and limited understanding of their roles and responsibilities, which affects the effectiveness of supervision in village governance.

Inhibiting Factors

It cannot be denied that the implementation of the supervisory duties and functions of the Village Consultative Body does not always run smoothly. Several inhibiting factors have been identified, including the limited allowances provided to members of the Village Consultative Body, inadequate facilities and infrastructure, limited human resources occupying membership positions, and the existence of community members who support or oppose decisions made by the Village Consultative Body.

Differences in community perspectives—both pro and contra—toward policies and decisions can influence the effectiveness of supervision. Nevertheless, such dynamics are an inherent part of democratic processes at the village level.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of the main duties of the Village Consultative Body (Badan Permusyawaratan Desa/BPD) in Mongolato Village has not yet been fully carried out. This can be observed from the main duties that have been implemented by the Village Consultative Body, namely accommodating and channeling community aspirations, forming the village head election committee, and participating in the discussion and enactment of Village Regulations jointly with the Village Head.

However, the supervisory duties and functions have been implemented effectively, thereby contributing to the minimization of potential irregularities in the Village Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBDes). The implementation of the main duties and supervisory functions of the Village Consultative Body in village governance in Mongolato Village, Telaga District, Gorontalo Regency, is influenced by two main factors, namely supporting factors and inhibiting factors.

The supporting factors include community support and participation toward the Village Consultative Body, as well as a strong and cooperative relationship between the Village Consultative Body and the Village Government. Meanwhile, the inhibiting factors consist of inadequate allowances provided to members of the Village Consultative Body, limited facilities and infrastructure, insufficient human resources occupying membership positions, and the existence of community members who support or oppose decisions made by the Village Consultative Body.

Based on these findings, several recommendations can be proposed. First, the Village Consultative Body is expected to better understand and identify the needs of the community, particularly in the context of development planning, in order to reduce differences of opinion during the decision-making process for village development in Mongolato Village. In addition, the Village Consultative Body should carry out its main duties that have not yet been implemented and increase the awareness of its members to be more frequently present at the village office in order to fulfill their obligations and facilitate coordination with the Village Head.

Second, for the Village Government, considering that many development programs have not yet been implemented, the existing cooperative relationship between village institutions—particularly between the Village Head and the Village Consultative Body—should be maintained and strengthened. This cooperation is essential to ensure that unimplemented development programs can be completed effectively and in accordance with the established plans.

Finally, the community is also expected to actively participate in supervision, provide constructive input, and support village institutions. The implementation of the duties and functions of the Village Consultative Body in village development planning should be carried out with community involvement, as such development efforts are ultimately intended to serve the interests and welfare of the community itself.

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