REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 23rd June, 2021

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

MOTION

LAIKIPIA COUNTY GOVERNMENT WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Chairperson of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee, Hon. Simon Kanyutu, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT this Assembly adopts the report and financial statements for March 2019 for the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources by the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee dated 15th June, 2021.

Mr. Speaker, this is the report of the committee and before I go to the report I would like to…

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was shocked when I sat because the mover of this motion is not a Member of this committee rose and contributed towards the same. The Chair who is not in this House had already given this duty to the Vice Chair Hon. Patricia and in her absence one of the Members of the committee is supposed to move the motion. I don't understand how in his own way, he stood to contribute to the things he doesn't know.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was called by the Vice Chair. I know this Assembly is aware of the absence of Hon. Kanyutu. This afternoon I was called by Vice Chair because she tried to reach other Members but she told me that they were out. Now that Hon. Wakahiu is in, I would request with your permission that he continues with the motion.

I was doing it on behalf of Hon. Patricia because she told me the Members might be out. Mr. Speaker, with your permission I beg Hon. Wakahiu to take over. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Suge. Don't let your kindness get into fire. Hon. Wakahiu you can move that motion.

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to appreciate Hon. Suge for making sure that the business of this House cannot stop because some people are out. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my able Chair and the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Natural Resources I beg to move the following motion;

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THAT this Assembly adopts the report and financial statements for March 2019 for the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources by the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee dated 15th June, 2021.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the committee The committee's membership according to SO No. 157 comprises of the following five honourable Members:-

1. Hon. Simon Kanyutu - Chairperson
2. Hon Patricia Muthoni - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Robert Maina - Member
4. Hon. Mutahi Muritu - Member
5. Hon. Wilson Wakahiu - Member

Scrutiny of The Quarterly Report

Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the committee's mandate (SO 191), the committee held several meetings to scrutinize the 3rd quarter report for the period ending 31st March, 2019 for the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources in order to report back to the House. After scrutiny of the report, the committee wrote this report in order to present it to the House for adoption.

Introduction

Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 sections 163, 164 165 and 166, the County Treasury is required to prepare financial statements of each County Government Entity, receiver of Revenue and Consolidated Financial Statements for all County Government entities at the end of every financial year in accordance with the standards and formats described by the public Sector Accounting Standards Board.

Financial Performance

Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the 3rd quarter of 2018/2019 Financial year, the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources expenditures were as follows according to the 3rd quarter report for 2018/2019 Financial Year;

a. The department was able to spend Kshs. 39,375,111.00 against the budget of Kshs. 57,175,000.00 representing 68.85% absorption of the allocation.

b. Storm Water Management; this was the highest cost centre which had an allocation of Kshs. 8,500,000.00. The total expenditure on this program was Kshs. 9,375,363.00 which led to an over expenditure of Kshs. 875,363.00 thus representing an absorption rate of 110.3%.

c. Headquarters; this program was allocated Kshs. 42,812,500.00 of which Kshs. 25,393970.00 was spent leaving a balance of Kshs. 16,872,530.00 which indicates an absorption rate of 60.59%.

2. Water Services; the program had an allocation of Kshs. 5,862,500.00. The expenditure of this program was Kshs. 4,059,778.00 representing an absorption rate of 69.25%.

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Mr. Speaker, the table below gives how every sector absorbed their allocate budget for that particular quarter.

Table 1: Budget Absorption Rate

Program	3rd Quarter Estimates	Expenditure	Absorption Rate
Headquarters	42,812,500.00	25,939,970.00	60.59
Water Services	5,862,500.00	4,059,778.00	69.25
Storm Water Management	8,500,000.00	9,375,363.00	110.3
Totals	**57,175,000**	**39,375,111.00**	

Source: The quarterly report and Financial Statements for the quarter ended March, 2019

Observations

The committee observed the following;

1. The Storm water Management program had the highest absorption rate of 110.3%;
2. The Headquarter program had the lowest absorption rate of 60.59%

Recommendations

The committee recommends that;

1. More funds should be allocated to Storm Water Management.
2. The House adopts the committee's report

Conclusion

Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the persisting climate change, the county has been experiencing dry seasons and farmers have been suffering from lack of adequate equipment and water. It is therefore prudent to increase the department's annual budget to enable equip the already drilled boreholes. Water is an essential commodity and every citizen has a right to clean water. These projects once completed will provide adequate water for irrigation, livestock and domestic use and according to the World Health Organisation and Kenya Government COVID-19 protocols, the citizens must be provided with adequate water for domestic use and washing hands.

Also Mr. Speaker, there is need to enact a law on climate change to guide the county on how to deal with change of climate any time it is experienced. Once adequate funds are provided to the department, more water will be provided leading to more investors being attracted to the county since water is an element of production.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, that is the report and the observations from the committee as far as the quarter report of that financial year 2018/2019 is concerned. Mr. Speaker, water is the key sector the people of Laikipia need to look at when it comes to funding. In this Financial Year, the County Government of Laikipia have tried to make people get clean water for domestic use. As one of the observations of the committee and the recommendations many boreholes have been

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drilled across the county since 2017 but the issue of equipping the boreholes and pipeline connection have not been done.

As a committee, we have observed even though we are making other budgets just to do with water, we believed that once we have the borehole the most important or critical issue is to supply this water for domestic irrigation and livestock. As far as we do budget we can also make sure that these boreholes are equipped to make sure that water reach our people whom we represent.

I want to appreciate this report, though late, that every Sectoral Committee is trying to make sure that their report is brought into this House. Once we are done with business we should ensure the public are well furnished with what the County Government is doing as far as the implementation of projects are concerned. I thank the Members who participated when we were doing this report as the Agriculture, Water and Natural Resources Committee.

We know it has taken us sometime to interrogate and to find the report from the department concerned and make sure that we report to this House. Having no Member for Agriculture in the House, I will request the Hon. Suge who in one way or the other gone through the report to second this motion.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono mjadala huu na ni mshukuru Mheshimiwa Wakahiu kwa kutuelezea kwa kirefu zaidi na natumai kila Mbunge katika Bunge lako amepitia na kuelewa kabisa. Maswala ya maji ni maswala muhimu katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia. Sehemu nyingi katika Laikipia zina upungufu wa mvua na ni wajibu wetu kuhakikisha ya kwamba hawa watu wamepata maji safi ya matumizi na mambo ya ukulima.

Bwana Spika, nikiangalia maswala kamati wameangalia ni kwamba Bunge liliweza kuweka milioni 57 na wizara iliweza kutumia milioni 39. Nawasihi wanakamati tuweze kujua ni kwa sababu gani. Ni vizuri kama pesa zimetengwa na zile miradi zimeorodheshwa, wanalaikipia wafanyiwe kulingana na mapendekezo yao.

Bwana Spika, sijui kama ni kwa sababu ya zile matayarisho ya kupeana kazi ama ni namna gani. Tunaenda kufunga mwaka na ni vizuri tujue changamoto ambazo zimekuwa ili tunaposonga mwaka ujao wa kisiasa tuone kila kitu kimetekelezwa na kufanywa kwa wakati unaofaa ili kuwafaidi wanalaikipia ambao ni walipa kodi. Naunga mkono ripoti ya kamati ya maji. Asante.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for allowing me to contribute to this report. When I open this document I believe the committee has looked at it but when I look at it I see storm water management which is spending a lot of expenditure. In fact, it is going beyond 100% in the last quarter.

When I see storm water management is rain water and it just flows freely carrying top soil and causing erosion and all that, I wish the committee could have told us where this storm water has been managed. If it has been managed, it means there are a lot of storage tanks that the County has built and drainages that direct the water somewhere.

Mr. Speaker, I don't believe that is happening in Laikipia because the tariffs for water that we drink in our homes is very high. If they are spending a budget of almost Kshs. 10,000,000 then

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that tariff should be going low because they should be supplementing the water that is provided by the water companies. In essence I think this is not happening. When I visit Laikipia North, the *lagas* (Seasonal Rivers) are full and water is flowing but once the rains stops they dry up leaving a lot of erosion in Laikipia North and basically it is not happening.

I also want to say that this report is very shallow. Yesterday the same committee tabled a similar report to this House. This conclusion is copy pasted from yesterday's report. I want this Assembly to stop being taken for granted. You cannot copy paste something that is not relevant. We are talking about water services, storm water management then you tell us about boreholes being equipped yet this is management of water and the water is supposed to be taken to dams or water pans so that it is taken to homes for use.

In a recommendation like this or conclusion I could have expected they tell us why this department wants more funds allocated to storm water management and they are not telling us where they have managed or what they have done with that water. It is a report that is neither here nor there. I feel that it doesn't meet the standards of this House. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) left the Chair]

[Deputy Speaker (Hon. Daniel Nyausi) took the Chair]

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, probably before I proceed, we are encouraging as an Assembly for committees to bring the reports on time but they must be detailed reports. I am saying that because the committees are facilitated by this Assembly to do so fully. I wish to say that we are not part and parcel of undetailed reports as the leadership in this Assembly. Please Members and particularly Chairpersons, take this into consideration that you are expected to bring a detailed report in this House any other time you are called upon. May I call upon the mover to make a reply if there is no any other Member who is willing to give their contribution?

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank the Hon. Members who have contributed and those who have seen that it is important that we present to this House what we observed and what we recommended. As I answer, I wish to say one or two things on some of the issues raised by Hon. Nyawira concerning how the storm water in a way managed to utilize that fund above 100% of the allocation coming up to 110%. When the committee was meeting and deliberating on the same, it is important to note that the year under review on the quarterly report is during F/Y 2018/2019.

Many of us having come out of the first government and shifting to the second devolved government, there were some things which were being done before elections. Many people will bear me witness that before this government there were so many households that were provided with water tanks to collect and harvest water from the storms. Mr. Speaker, the following year the department was planning to continue with the same and many were the things they did at that time just to sensitize people on how to harvest this water either in their tanks or draining water from water pans and dams.

Mr. Speaker, in 2018 and I know that Hon. Nyawira can bear me witness because she was there before 2018, she was able to know that many areas in Nanyuki, Ngobit and some other areas, people were provided with tanks. This was a part of the continuation of what was there before. When we were recommending that much money to be allocated, we were thinking that this programme could continue but to our surprise this did not happen. If today we were asked, we

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would first sit down and once again evaluate and see whether it is important or maybe we just do without it.

For that time, we felt that it was important because people were very happy harvesting water for those who got the water tanks. We thought that we would continue with the same but as the Hon. Member has said, that thing is no more and we reported for that particular period. So I want to thank the Hon. Members and I believe that as you have said, it is important that the committees come up with detailed reports and it is very critical also that everybody may understand what is entirely being done by the County Government. Thank you, very much and I appreciate the contributions of the Members.

(Question put and agreed)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ALTERATION OF ASSEMBLY SITTING

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this Assembly approves the application of Standing Order No. 31(3) to allow it change its sittings for Thursday, 24th June, 2021 from 2.30 p.m. to 9.00 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, this will enable Members to console with our brother, Hon. Kanyutu as we all know that he has lost his mother and therefore it will be appropriate to take that opportunity to go and have fellowship with the family as we pray with them. May God give that family the strength to overcome grief. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Members for supporting that Member as you all know that a friend in need is a friend in deed. Members, because we have changed the sittings of this House, I would urge the Members that we all go together and be with that family and I know that you will be a blessing. I would like to call upon the Majority Chief Whip to second this motion. Thank you.

Hon. Chalumbo Ole Kaparo: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Kabla niafiki ningetaka kutoa rambirambi zangu binafsi kwa Mheshimiwa ambaye amepoteza mama na pia ni Mheshimiwa ambaye tunafanya kazi pamoja. Natoa rambirambi kwa Mheshimiwa ambaye anayewakilisha Wadi ya Marmanet.

La pili, naona kama huu mjadala ukiwa mzuri wa kubalisha kikao cha Bunge na kukileta asubuhi ili tuweze kupata nafasi ya kwenda kuketi na familia ya Mheshimiwa. Kwa hivyo yangu ni kuafiki mjadala kwa sababu hii itakuwa nafasi nzuri kwa Waheshimiwa kwenda kwa mmoja wetu ambaye amepoteza mama mzazi. Kwa hivyo naunga mkono na ninaomba Waheshimiwa waunge mkono huu mjadala. Asante.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Nataka kuunga mkono huu mswada ambao uko mbele ya hili Bunge wa kuweza kuwa na kikao kesho asubuhi ili baadaye tuweze kujumuika kama familia ya Mheshimiwa Kanyutu ambaye ameweza kupoteza mama mzazi. Kwa hivyo ningetaka kushukuru hili wazo kwa sababu kwanza jukumu letu ni kushughulika wananchi. Ninashukuru kwa sababu ni vizuri kwanza kuweka maslahi ya waliotuleta hapa mbele na ndio naunga mkono kabisa.

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Kuna vile tungesema kwanza twende asubuhi halafu tuje Bunge saa nane lakini kwa sababu sisi ni watumishi wa wananchi, ikaweza kuwa ni busara kuweza kuleta huu mswada asubuhi ili kwanza tushughulikie Wanjiku halafu baadaye tuweze kujumuika na Mheshimiwa Kanyutu katika wakati huu mgumu ambapo wamepoteza mama yao mzazi.

Kupoteza mama ni uchungu kwa familia kwa sababu tunajua mama anashikilia familia kwa mahali pakubwa sana. Nafikiri familia ambayo haina mama wanaelewa yale ambayo wanapitia. Sisemi kwamba wazee ndio wanafaa kuaga dunia, bali mama ni kiungo muhimu kwa sababu mama ndiye amelea hiyo familia. Mama ndiye amewatunza hao watoto. Mama ndiye huangalia boma wakati wazee hawako, kwa mfano leo mimi siko nyumbani lakini mama yuko.

Kwa hivyo kuwa na mama ni jambo muhimu na ningeomba wale walio na mama zao waweze kuchukua hilo jambo kwa uzito kwa sababu wengine wetu hatuna. Hatuna mahali pa kwenda kutembelea mama zetu. Kwa hivyo walio na mama zao washukuru sana. Kwa sababu Mheshimiwa Kanyutu amempoteza mama yake ni vizuri twende kuungana naye tumpe nguvu ili anapopambana na wakati huu mgumu aweze kuona kuwa anaofanya kazi pamoja nao wako pamoja naye. Naunga mkono huu mswada ili tuweze kuhudhuria maombi pamoja na hiyo familia. Asante.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Kwanza, nataka kushukuru Kiongozi wa Walio Wengi katika Bunge la Kaunti ya Laikipia kwa kukubali kubadilisha kikao cha Bunge kesho kutoka saa nane hadi asubuhi, ili tuje hapa tufanye kazi ya Wanjiku kisha tuandamane sisi sote kupeleka rambirambi zetu kwa familia ya Kimani, ambaye ni Mheshimiwa Simon Kimani Kanyutu, Mwakilishi wa wadi ya Marmanet.

Nashukuru pia Waheshimiwa wote ishirini na wanne wa Bunge la Kaunti ya Laikipia. Kwenye ukurasa wetu kila mtu amejitolea na kusimama na Mheshimiwa Kanyutu. Nataka pia kumshukuru Mheshimiwa Kanyutu. Hata kama hayuko hapa, Mungu anajua anafanya kazi ya mama yake. Ni miaka miwili sasa tangu Mheshimiwa Kanyutu aanze kupambana na ugonjwa wa mamake kule Nairobi, Kijabe na kwingineko, bali Mungu ameona siku ya mamake imefika. Mheshimiwa Kanyutu amefanya kazi yake naye Mungu akafanya yake.

Haya yalikuwa mambo ya Mungu, na kama ambavyo Mheshimiwa Ndiritu amesema, kupoteza mama, baba au mtoto ni jambo lililo na uchungu. Mimi sina baba wala mama lakini najua jinsi ambavyo familia wanasikia. Ni kitu kichungu sana kwa hivyo tuombee familia, na kesho Mungu akitusaidia tukitoka Bungeni tuandamane tukutane na kanisa na watu wa eneo hilo tushirikiane katika maombi na tushikilie familia.

Hata tukiwa hapa, kila mtu amwombee Mheshimiwa Kanyutu. Ni mwakilishi wa watu. Sasa hivi ameshikanisha mambo yao bali Wanjiku hajui kama kuna msiba. Atampigia tu simu na kumweleza shida zake kwa vile ni kiongozi. Natoa rambirambi zangu na za familia yangu. Nashukuru kwa uongozi wako, Bwana Spika. Mungu awabariki nyote, asante.

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Mheshimiwa Spika, kwanza natoa rambirambi zangu kwa ndugu yetu, Mheshimiwa Kanyutu. Pole kwa familia yote. Nimeshtuka kidogo Mheshimiwa Ndiritu alipokuwa anaongea; niliona kama ameokoka, kwa vile amekuwa akilaumiwa sana kwamba, sijui akina mama, ama akina dada... bali namshukuru kwa upeo huo.

Bwana Spika, mtu ambaye hajawahi kufiwa na mamake, babake ama ndugu yake, nafikiri siku ya kifo ndiyo ya mwisho kumpa ndugu yeyote heshima yake ya mwisho. Amefanya kazi yake, Mungu amemsaidia. Kwa hivyo mimi nasimama kutoa pole zangu kwa huyo ndugu yangu.

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Tumefanya kazi naye na ni rafiki wa karibu. Mimi nitaungana na Bunge siku ya kesho tuweze kujitokeza pale. Naamini Bunge lote litakuwa pale kuomboleza pamoja naye. Nashukuru kwa hiyo nafasi.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Benways, and then the Mover to give a reply.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On a light note, I remind you that it is George Karuiru of Wairimu and Kanyi, not Benways. First of all, I would want to wish all the women in this House WCW as they celebrate it on Wednesdays. I would also like to pass my condolences and that of my family, the people of Ol Moran Ward and Laikipia County to Hon. Kanyutu for the loss of his beloved mom who went to be with the Lord sometime back.

It is evident that the presentations that were supposed to be brought on the table in the House were to be brought by the Chair of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee, who always delegated. We know that in about two or three months it has been presented by the Deputy Chair of the Committee because the Hon. Member was always very keen on taking his mom to various hospitals for various interrogations pertaining to her health.

It is my humble plea and also gratitude to the Mover of the motion that we have realized the importance of joining the family, as it has been hard for the Hon. Member due to his ailing mother. Now that she has gone to be with the Lord, we must condole with the family. As pertains to the various times that some of our Hon. Members, Hon. Catherine and others, just to mention a few who have lost their moms; it is not that those with our moms like myself that have gone to the Lord just to say that we stay with our moms.

That is what we ought to have and a big realization that some of our Members have always condoled and sent the messages of condolences. We must realize that there is an end to everything. Hon. Members, the togetherness you will show tomorrow after the Assembly or the adjournment of this Assembly to the Hon. Simon Kanyutu Member of Marmanet, will be a big picture of consoling and condoling with the family despite that his father is still alive.

Whatever our Member is going through is now terminated by the lord and we ought to have that unity. So Mr. Speaker, I just wish and beg the Hon. Members to join in this. I wish the Hon. Ladies in this House WCW as we also part with our mum, thank you.

Deputy Speaker: May I now call upon the Mover to give a reply

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to appreciate the positive contribution from Members and also urge them to make sure they approve this procedural motion. Also I would like if possible, let us organize ourselves. People from this end need to see how we can plan for travelling, if they want to travel together I will make sure that I will organize.

I need their communication to make sure that because this procedural motion, we have done it because of that particular issue in front of us. Members I will also urge you let us come up with a programme, if possible we could have someone who will preach and give us a word of encouragement. Amongst us one can lead us in intercession, and the other remaining Members you can come up with a number we represent there. Let us be organized and urge Members to support this motion, thank you Hon. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

PRAYERS AT HON. KANYUTU HOME

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members while still in that order, as the Majority Leader has just put it, I will also encourage all of us to attend tomorrow's prayers day at our brother's home Hon. Simon Kanyutu in Marmanet. Those who probably won't make it, please ensure that on Friday which I think is the burial day, please let us ensure that we have gone to show our solidarity.

We are one when our sister or our brother that gets any problems, we are always together. I also wish to thank most of you, all of you who have made the contribution, it is very nice way of doing it. I also take this part to congratulate our Staff because even tomorrow we will be having a good number of them too, thank you very much Hon. Members.

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Speaker: The sittings of this House now stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday 24th June 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

The House rose at 3:04 p.m.

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