REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 15th April, 2025

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 10.00 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we have the quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell ring for ten minutes.

(Quorum bell rang for six minutes)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we now have the quorum.

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if indeed we do have the quorum?

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: The bell will continue ringing until a time I has directed.

(Quorum bell rang for four minutes)

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we now have the quorum?

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, the bell will continue ringing for five minutes.

(Quorum bell rang for four minutes)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I think we now have the quorum. I don't know whether the clerk has eyes and I do not know what to say, but I think he can open his eyes to confirm whether we have quorum.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen. I will now ask the clerk to confirm to me if we indeed we do have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: I direct that the bell stops ringing as we proceed with the order of the House Business.

PAPER LAID

ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR

Hon. John Gichuki Thru' Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the Majority Leader, I beg to lay the following paper;

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The Address of the Governor delivered on Wednesday 2nd April, 2025 at 2.30 p.m.

(Hon. Stephen Ndiritu laid the Papers on the Table of the House)

NOTICE OF MOTION

ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR

Hon. John Gichuki Thru' Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 24(4), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the Address of the Governor delivered on Wednesday 2nd April, 2025 at 2.30pm.

MOTION

ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR

Hon. John Gichuki Thru' Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 24(4), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the Address of the Governor delivered on Wednesday 2nd April, 2025 at 2.30pm.

Hon. Speaker, I am doing this on behalf of the Majority Leader Hon. John Gichuki Maina. Today we have this motion which is the address by H.E the Governor of Laikipia County which was delivered on 2nd April, 2025. The address was about the development, the policies and plans that the Governor has for this county.

Hon. Speaker, if the Members can go through the report, the Governor was very clear on the vision and the ideas that he has for the people of Laikipia. Mr. Speaker, the Governor was elected by the people of Laikipia with one mandate; to work for people. Hon. Speaker, in his address it was noted that the Governor has addressed all the issues that touch Laikipia County including infrastructure and all the departments with the work plan that the government has for the people of Laikipia.

Hon. Speaker, all Members of this House had a privilege to be in this House and they got a chance to hear what the Governor had in hand for the people of Laikipia. Hon. Speaker, he talked about so many projects. The good thing that the Governor talked about is the vision he had with the people of Laikipia contained in Agriculture and our Health Sector. He talked about Trade Department plans and what he intends to do in the remaining years.

Hon. Speaker, in this speech Members can go through and they can confirm that whatever Governor has addressed in this particular document is true. The Governor was clear on what he intends to do with the people and the County of Laikipia. With those few remarks, I would wish members to go through the report because many times this document can have many things but, on the ground, things are different. I think this time; the Governor is truthful from whatever he has indicated in this document.

In my ward, I can confirm that this is true and other members can also confirm that the document has the right content. I call upon Hon. Mugambi who is seated next to me and who was present when the Governor was addressing the House to second this motion and confirm whether the Governor has addressed the right things that touches the people of Laikipia. Thank you.

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Hon. Mugambi Gatati: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand to second the state of address delivered by H.E the Governor Joshua Irungu on 2nd April, 2025 at the Third Assembly, Fourth session, Laikipia County. Some of the things that the Governor addressed are important like on water sector. The Governor gave a number of boreholes that we have sank. Hopefully we shall install solar and pumps so that Laikipians can benefit from the said project.

It is a life changing project in Laikipia and I wish to heed my call to Water Department to make sure that all the dug boreholes are solar powered for community to use the water. There are some projects that the Governor had launched a month ago program. In my ward, I have one big borehole at Thome. Eloiloi which is from the bible. After the installing the borehole, he told the community to change the name from Eloiloi to a better word. Eloiloi meant crying which we need to change.

In Ngobit, I can see Wamura, I know Kagondu planted some mangoes, fruits tree and boreholes. Hon. Mwaniki did chicken. These are good things that the Governor is saying. There are some areas he is talking of partnering with organizations like KALRO to tackle challenges facing potato farmers.

Hon. Speaker, you will notice in Laikipia we usually farm same crops over and over. Since I was a little boy, in my area where we are born with Hon. Kagondu, they grow maize and beans since time immemorial. It's the high time we bring another crop that can bring farmers good returns and that solely lies within the functions of Laikipia County. This is a good speech and we also need to gear on as we proceed forming the new budget. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Hon. Members, we have a maximum of 4 days to deliberate on this. Seeing that you are going through the address of H.E the Governor, the ICT Staff will assist you to access the Address online.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to deliberate and support the speech. We have done several projects as the Governor stated and most of them are already finished but some are ongoing as the document indicates. The most touching aspect on service delivery is the infrastructure department. We have indicated to have done 911 kilometres of gravelling, 203 of new roads and gravelling of 359 kilometres. This is enhancing the mobility of our people and livestock from pastoralist areas, movement of crops to the market on agricultural sector and it shows that as a county we are considerate on matters of Infrastructure across the county.

Additionally, we have done 783 meters of culverts to enhance drainage on our roads so that roads may be accessible because we have been experiencing a lot of rainfall due to climate change. Further as promised by the Governor, there will be continuation of infrastructural works in all wards across the county and as we have set ceilings in the CFSP, there is more that will be done across all wards because we are embarking on leasing more equipment's so that we can be able to do more roads in our county.

On matters of education, we have done substantial work in terms of bursary issuance and building of more classrooms for our ECDEs. On TVETs, we have done a lot in construction of vocational training centres and equipping of the same so that we can be able to enhance the skills of our young people across the county. Also, on young ones, we have done substantial work on dilapidated classrooms across the county so that we can have habitable places of learning.

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As we have launched several ECDE projects in our county, it has been expanded from single classroom to a classroom with an ablution block and playing equipment and desks and chairs for our young people. That shows progress because it shows that we have advanced in our BQs so as to provide more to our young ones as we push on supporting in matters of education.

Mr. Speaker, on health, we have done substantial work because we have already given around two or three budgets and it is always the biggest percentage when it comes to funding but a lot needs to be done as the Governor has indicated. We promised to have our professional casuals on permanent and pensionable basis and we are still working on that as promised so that they can be able to have better salaries and security of tenure so that they can be able to deliver more services to our people (substantial and quality services). That will enhance service delivery.

The Governor has also promised to provide more drugs in our hospitals as we upgrade. He promised that we are going to downscale construction works so as to provide quality health care to our people so that our people can be able to get better medical services and the professionals that are employed by the government can be able to provide quality health care with more drugs and equipment's availed in our facilities. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mwaniki for a robust contribution.

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to debate on the Governor's speech. We have got four days to discuss on it and therefore allow me to discuss just a bit of it.

I want to appreciate our Governor because he has considered the ECDE because it is fully devolved and therefore managed by the county. I have realized that he is going to bring the budget for us to approve so that we can start the ECDE feeding programme. It is good to put it clear that we are not feeding the whole school. When we put the feeding programme, people might mistake and think that we are feeding the whole school. So, it is good to put it clear that we are only feeding the ECDEs.

I also would want to appreciate the Governor for he has talked about the water scarcity in our towns and especially in Nanyuki and Nyahururu. The design was done many years back when the population was less. Therefore, the idea of adding more piping and expanding is a good one and we support it. When he brings the budget to this House, we are going to support it because we need enough water in our towns because many businesses, hospitals and schools are in towns. As we are doing boreholes in the villages, we also need to consider the people who are in towns.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor did not talk about the sewer line connections in our towns especially in Nanyuki where we do suffer and I also believe it is the same case in Nyahururu and other towns in Laikipia. We need to consider the installations of sewer line systems because the soil of this area is a bit risky. When it rains, our toilets collapse and also because the population is big. People are fighting every now and then because when your toilet is full, you are going to look for a way out directing your sewer to my fence.

Mr. Speaker, I will not keep quiet; I will start fighting back. To avoid that conflict, we need to consider the sewer line connections. People are even ready to share the cost with the County. In terms of education, I heard that he is buying two more buses to be used by our youth when they travel for their games, and that is a very good idea. We are celebrating the one that we have.

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Three years ago, when I was in the previous government, the youth used to give us a budget saying that they need to travel to Nairobi, Nyeri, Nyahururu; but now that has ended. They are using our bus comfortably. Therefore, we support that idea so that even the people of Nyahururu and the North can celebrate.

However, Mr. Speaker, the Governor did not mention about adding more ambulances to hospitals. It is my humble request that he needs to consider adding more ambulances because the one we have is the only one that is functional, and it is not for the Nanyuki teaching and Referral Hospital; it is for Doldol. If we take the ambulance from Doldol to here, Doldol will be left without one. That is risky because when our mothers are giving birth and they have prolonged labour pains, that is risky. Therefore, ambulances are equally important. Therefore, I support the document but with a bit of amendment. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Veronica for such a good interjection and contribution. Hon. Salim, the floor is yours.

Hon. Salim Edung: Nashukuru, Bwana Spika, kwa kunipa hii nafasi.

Speaker: Just a minute. Honourable Member, kindly switch off your microphone. Thank you. Continue, Hon. Salim.

Hon. Salim Edung: Nashukuru, Bwana Spika, kwa kunipa hii nafasi, kwa ajili ya hotuba ambayo Gavana alitoa katika Bunge hili. Kitu cha kwanza ambacho nimeangalia kwenye hiyo hotuba, nimeona kuna kitu kizuri sana ambacho Gavana amefanya kwenye hiyo hotuba. Niliona waalimu mia nne na ishirini na saba wameajiriwa kama wafanyikazi wa kudumu badala ya vibarua. Hilo linaonyesha kuwa Gavana anawaangalia watu wake kwa undani sana.

Mtu anapopata kazi inayompa pensheni baada ya kustaafu, hiyo ni njia mojawapo ya kuwashughulikia watu wa Laikipia kwa sababu wamefanya kazi kwa bidii. Watoto wamesoma na kufika pale ambapo wamefika na hilo ni pongezi kwa Gavana kwa sababu amewainua waalimu wanaosomesha kwenye shule za chekechea.

Jambo lingine ambalo nimeona ni kuhusu maji. Gavana anashirikiana na wenye ranchi pamoja na idara mbalimbali, na imetusaidia sana. Hasa nikongea kuhusu wodi ya Segera, tumepata visima vingi kupitia majirani kama hifadhi ya wanyama ya Ol Pejeta, Segera Ranch na Element Access. Nilijaribu kutengeneza visima takriban kumi na tatu kwenye eneo la Segera kadiri Mungu alivyotusaidia, tukijumuisha na za Bunge la Kaunti ya Laikipia. Vilevile, inaonyesha kuwa Gavana akishirikiana na wenye ranchi katika Kaunti ya Laikipia, tutasaidika sana.

Nikiangazia upande wa afya, Mheshimiwa Ikunyua ameongea kuhusu ambulensi. Iwapo kuna ambuleni katika kila hospitali; ilitengwa hasa kwamba zitakuwa Doldol, Nyahururu na Rumuruti. Kama hilo laipo kwenye hii bajeti, basi inafaa irekebishwe ili ziwe kwenye kila kituo. Mtu akigonjeka usiku na inahitajika apelekwe Nyeri, itachukua muda mwingi sana kwa ambulensi kusafiri kutoka Nanyuki hadi Doldol. Vilevile, itachukua masaa mengi kusafirisha mtu kutoka Doldol hadi Nyahururu, na hatutakuwa tumejipanga. Hili si pendekezo langu peke yangu; ni pendekezo tulilonalo kwamba kuwe na ambulensi katika kila eneo.

Bwana Spika, nashukuru kwa hii hotuba ya Gavana. Tunaendelea kuidurusu ili tuone kuwa wananchi wa Laikipia watasaidika sasa na hata katika miaka ijayo. Asante.

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Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Salim. Since we still have more time for this debate, I will now ask that we proceed to the next order.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until later today, Tuesday, 15th April 2025 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.49 a.m.

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